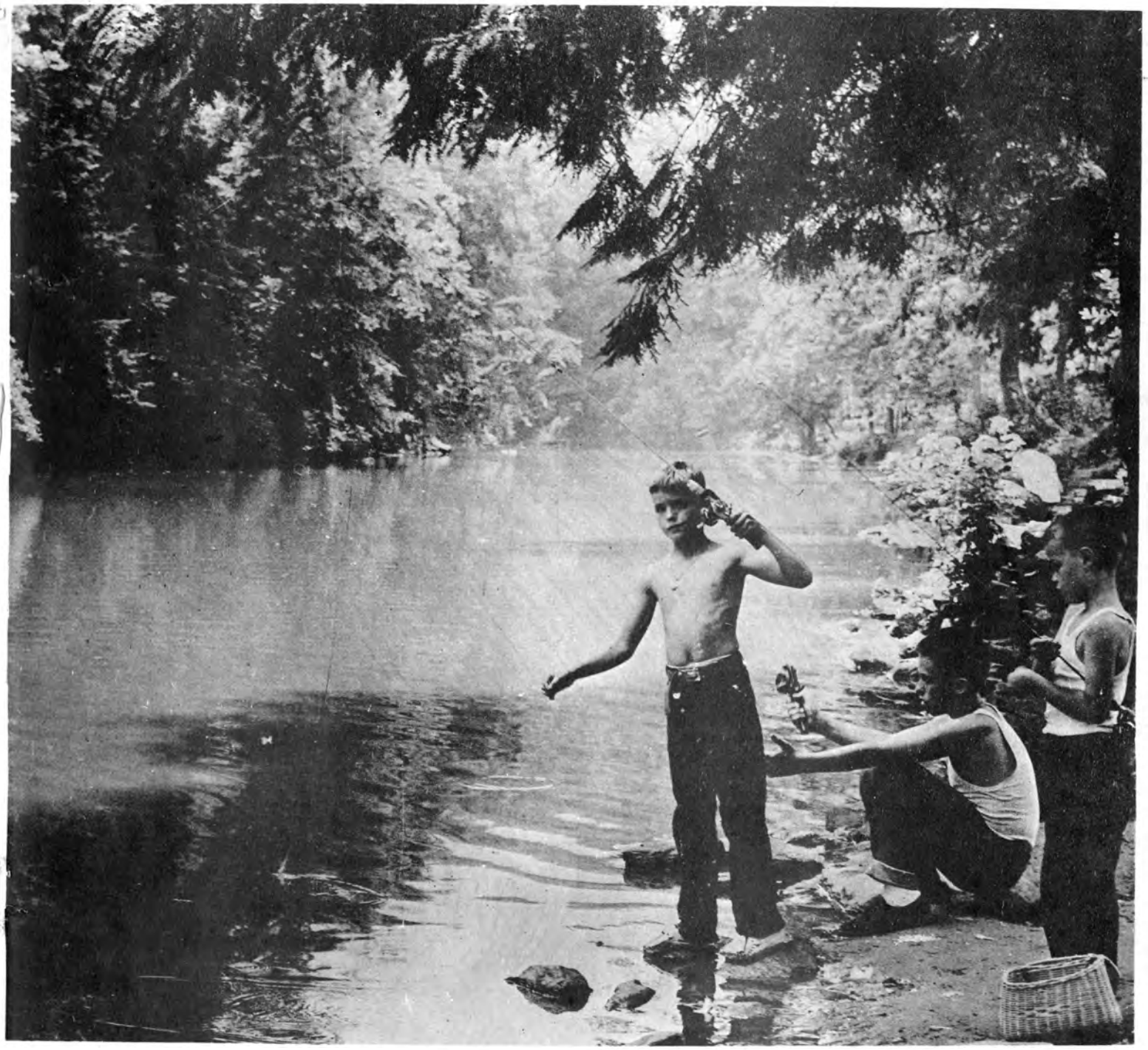
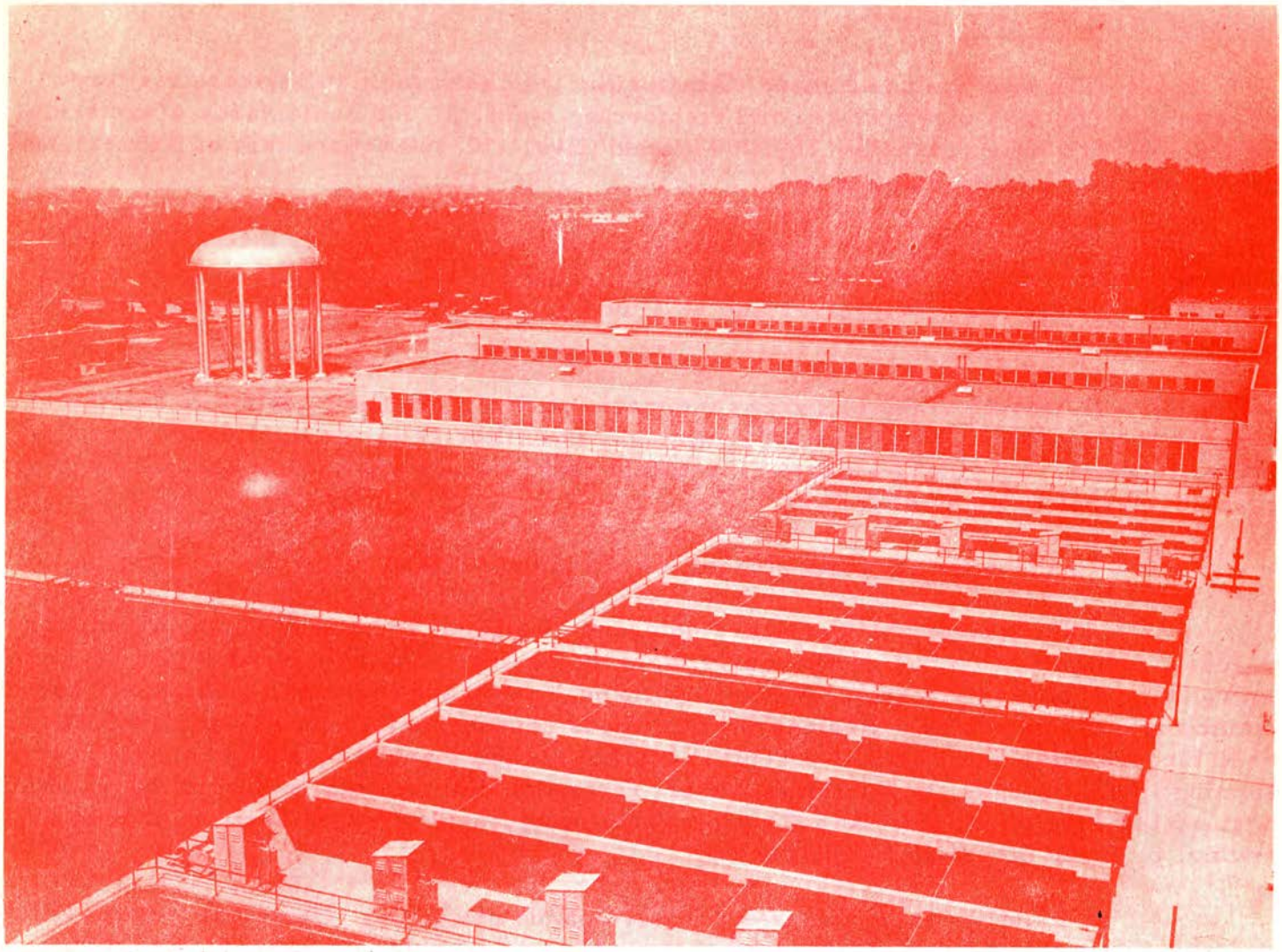
# NEWS

WATER DEPARTMENT
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA



SEPTEMBER

1959



## INTRICATE TORRESDALE PLANT TO BE OPENED BY MAYOR SEPT. 29

Several hundred distinguished visitors will see an amazingly complex creation when the new $25 million Torresdale water treatment plant opens September 29.

The dedicatory ceremony, which will be held at 11:00 a.m., will be attended by Mayor Richardson Dilworth and several hundred Philadelphia officials, professional men and community leaders. Present too will be numerous prominent water works and engineering figures from outside the city.

Final preparations for the ceremony and the week long open house period (which will follow) are being made.

(continued on next page)

TORRESDALE PLANT (Cont'd)

The new plant is a maze of materials which promise to impress visitors. It contains 9,000 tons of structural and reinforcing steel, 81,000 cubic yards of concrete, one and one-half million bricks, 268,000 glazed tiles, 130,000 square feet of plaster, and 8,000 cubic yards of drainage stone.

The intricate water flow through the plant is indicated by the 13 1/4 miles of piping, ranging from a few inches to 10 feet in diameter. Copper tubing adds another four miles. There are 1,200 valves and 48 sluice gates, while air tubing alone amounts to nearly two miles.

A tribute to the elaborate automatic controls are the 57 miles of electrical conduits and the 284 miles of electrical wiring. The filter beds use 11,510 cubic yards of sand and gravel. Serving the plant are 4,500 feet of railroad track. Mechanical equipment is worth several millions of dollars.

Push-button controls streamline the plant's operations.

Thus tons of chemicals are unloaded, weighed, fed and mixed by automatic devices. Sludge is [illegible]red continuously from the basins. The rate of filtration can be set centrally or at separate points. Water flow through the plant and to the clear water basin is automatically regulated. Besides the numerous console tables, gauges and switches scattered through the plant, there is a central control station manned by a chief operator. Warning lights, gauges, and automatic chart recording devices inform him of the situation in most parts of the plant. He can take prompt action to improve water flow, alter post chemical feeding, or make other vital adjustments.

Flexibility is an important feature of the new plant. Chemical feeders in the pre-treatment building are so arranged that, in case of trouble, one-half of the mixing and sedimentation basins could be cut off from water flow while the other half continues to operate.

Chemicals can be applied at various points in the plant.

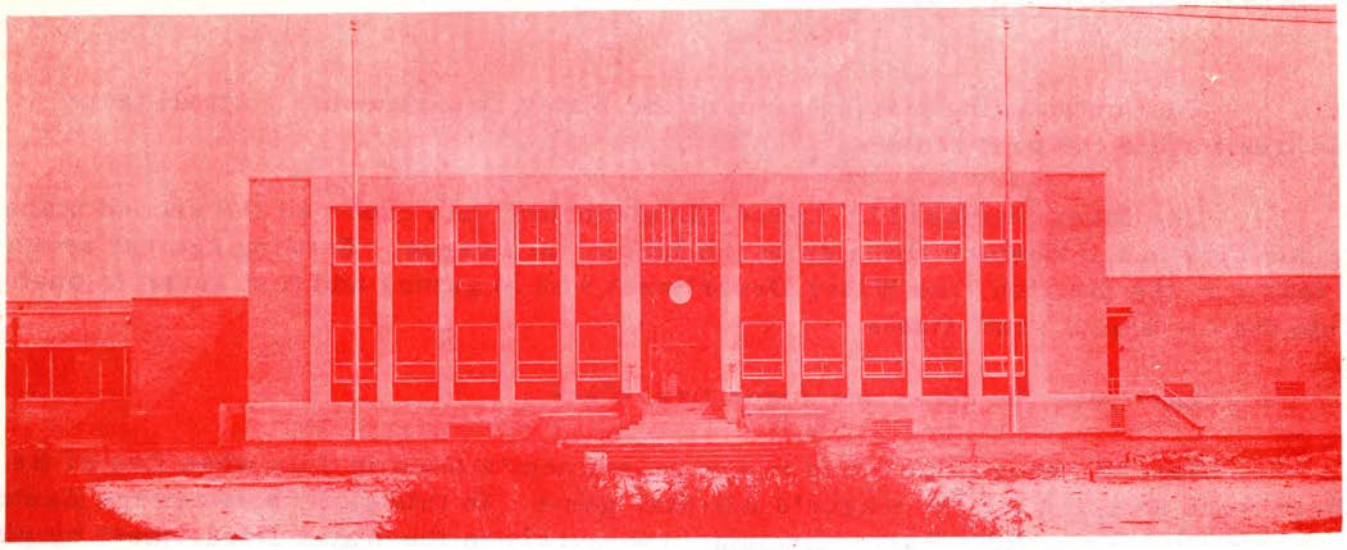
A special advantage is continuity of production. Individual filter beds can be kept working with little interruption. Cleaning of individual filters is performed in a half-hour by a single operator at a console table.

Bulk delivery of chemicals by rail car or truck under the pre-treatment building is another advantage. Purchase of chemicals in bulk, plus unloading with special equipment, increases efficiency and reduces cost.

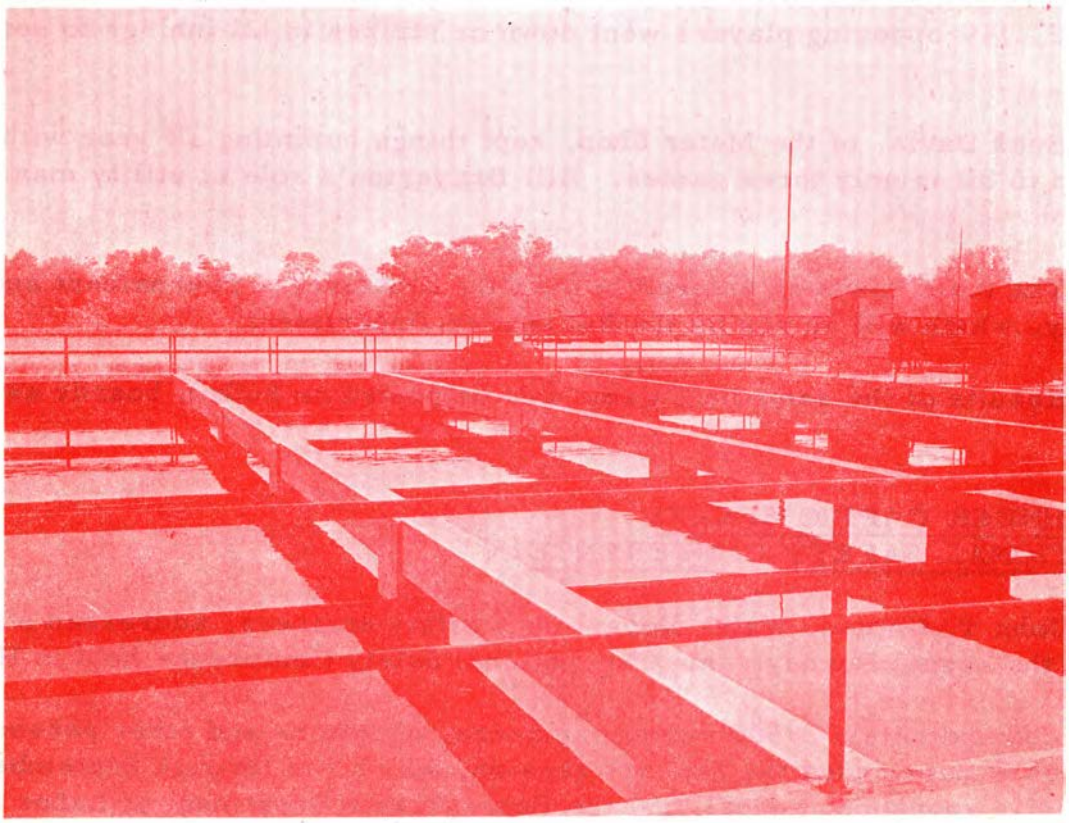
## FAMILY DAY AT TORRESDALE

Water Department Employees: You are invited to bring your families to Torresdale during the Open House period, September 29 - October 4. A special Water Department "Family Day" will be set aside, with a special program. Date to be announced later.

## TORRESDALE WATER TREATMENT PLANT



The filter building of the new plant has 94 rapid sand filter beds. Each will handle normally three million gallons of water daily. The filters are operated by semi-automatic controls.



The slow mixing basins (foreground) mix chemicals and water for 45 minutes, forming snowflake like "floc" to which heavy particles adhere. Particles sink in sedimentation basin (background).

## SOFTBALL TEAM CAPTURES INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE TROPHY

That outstanding playing form of the Water Department's softball team showed itself again the past season.

The team, managed by Lesser Lindenbaum, has captured the second place trophy for 1959 in the Eastern Division of the Industrial League. Battling against seven other teams in the division, the Water Department won 14 games and lost seven to push its way into the division's semi-finals.

Last year the department won first place.

Special recognition came to the department's team in July when five of its members were selected for the league's All-Star game. In this game between the Eastern and Western Divisions, John Watson brought new laurels to the Water Department by pitching three perfect innings and hitting the only home run of the game. Other participants were John Craney, outfield; Leon Williams, catcher; Mario Evangelist, 3rd base; and Lesser Lindenbaum, manager for the occasion.

During the regular season, John Watson lived up to the record of the All-Star game. He won 14 games and lost three, while breaking his strike-out record of 1958 by 28 men. In all, 149 opposing players went down on strikes in 121 innings to set a new league record.

Buck Davis, of the Meter Shop, kept things humming all year with his sweeping bat. He failed to hit in only three games. Bill Brayerton's role of utility man saved the day on one occasion.

The team has been entered in the City Employee's Tournament and the Gold Medal Tourney, which will be run by the Recreation Department.

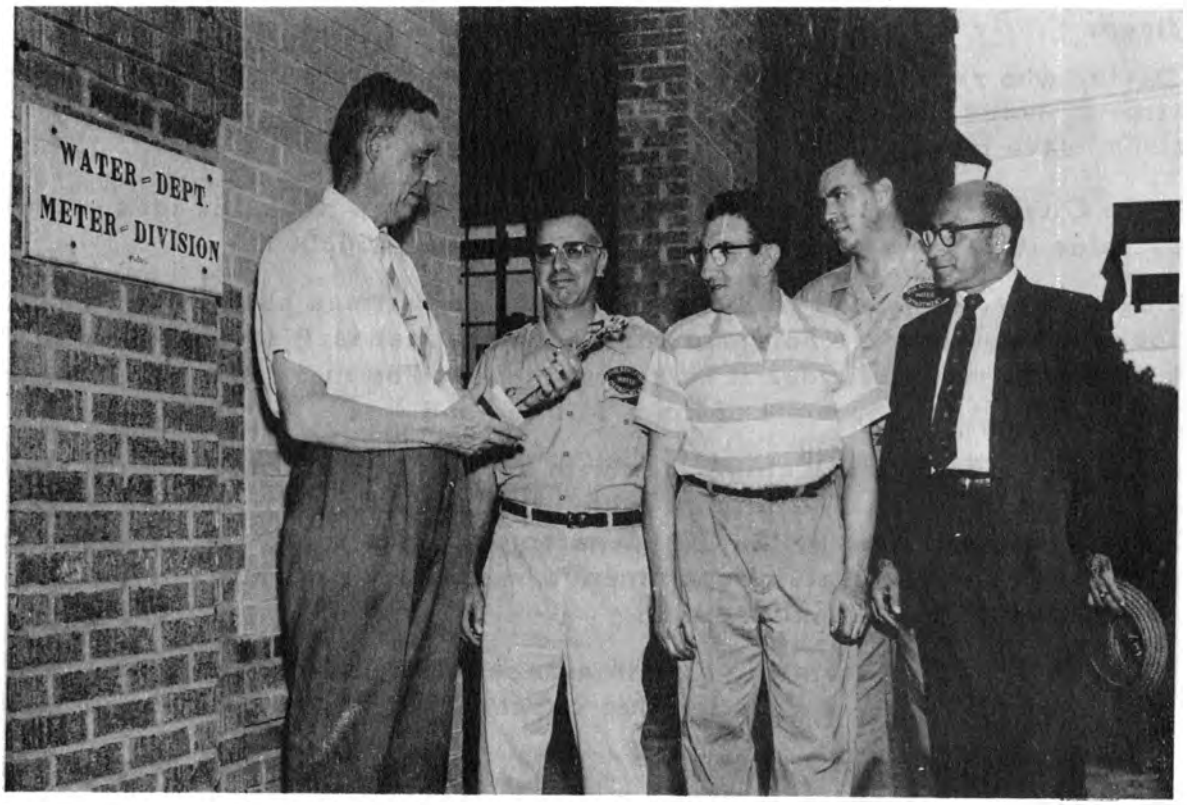
Results of the semi-final game will be posted on bulletin boards as soon as available.

## SAFETY ENGINEER CAPPIO SPEAKS TO OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY CONFERENCE

John T. Cappio, Water Department safety engineer, addressed a seminar Wednesday at the annual Pennsylvania Occupational Safety Conference held in Harrisburg.

Approximately 2,500 safety engineers, directors and other persons concerned with safety problems attended the two-day session, which ran through September 9 and 10. The conference is sponsored annually by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

Mr. Cappio talked about the problems of safety "Prevention and Production" in relation to the operations of public utilities. An employee of the Water Department for two and one-half years, Mr. Cappio was safety engineer at the Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton Corporation for two years.




METER SHOP CHAMPIONS
RECEIVE TROPHY FROM ARNOLD

Deputy Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold presented a well deserved trophy to the Meter Shop's champion bowlers Wednesday, September 2.

The team had captured the intra-departmental championship for the preceding season.

On the team were Alfred Gionta, Russell Thomas, Louis Farabelli, Milton Schultz, and Winston Williams.

BOWLING LEAGUE STARTS
NEW SEASON THIS EVENING

The Water Department Bowling League will begin its 1959-60 season this evening at the Bowlerdrome, 30th Street and Allegheny Avenue.

It is expected that there will be eight teams, with four players each, to compete for the department championship.

## PERSONNEL OFFICER DESCRIBES HOW TO TURN AN IDEA INTO GOLD

Your ideas may be worth money to you, according to Ervin Davis, Water Department personnel officer.

Mr. Davis, who recently took over administration of the cash awards suggestion system for the department, notes that all City agencies are looking constantly for fresh ideas to improve operations, save money, or better services.

Under the City's suggestion system, an employee with a workable idea can win from $25 to $500, plus 1% of all savings to the City that exceed $50,000.

Mr. Davis notes, however, that employees are sometimes hesitant to submit their suggestions for fear the ideas are not good enough. "The fact is," said Mr. Davis, "that anyone can think of a really valuable idea if he keeps trying. The more new ideas an employee offers, the more likely it is that some of them will be good."

The personnel officer urges employees with suggestions to obtain the necessary forms from his office, fill them out and send them back. "We'll take it from there," he added. The suggestion will be evaluated first by the City department which it affects. If it meets the test of practicability and value, the Water Department's suggestion committee will forward it to a central City awards board for a final decision.

Last July, Stanley W. Cywinski, a maintenance superintendent at the Northeast sewage treatment works, won $100 for a suggestion that improved Water Department operations.

What kind of ideas are acceptable?
Ideas that -

(1) make an operation easier, faster, safer, more efficient
(2) do away with unnecessary paper work or avoid delays
(3) eliminate duplication of work
(4) save time, money or material
(5) improve service to the public
(6) increase the City's revenues
(7) improve the health, morale or welfare of other employees.

Why not telephone or call at the Personnel Office for a suggestion blank today? Room 1225, City Hall Annex. Tel.: Automatic 2706; Bell ext. 228.

## THREE EMPLOYEES RETIRE AFTER LONG CITY SERVICE

The end of long public service is in sight for three employees who will retire this month.

John Cox, 66, of 1543 Church Street, will complete 29 years of service with the Water Department. He is a labor foreman at the Torresdale water treatment plant.

Frank Roggero, 65, has been with the department for 12 years. A water distribution repairman in the distribution section, he lives at 9950 Ferndale Street.

Hiram Shera, 84, joined the City service in 1941. He has been working as a carpenter in the building maintenance section. He lives at 2522 S. Dewey Street.

The department extends its best wishes to these faithful employees.

## AVOID THAT RUSH - REGISTER NOW

The deadline to register for the General Election is Monday, September 14. If you haven't registered yet, now is the time to do it. Those registration lines will really be long on Monday.

If you are in center city, you can register at the Registration Commission headquarters, ground floor, Commercial Trust Bldg., 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. Also in Room 170, City Hall, until 4 p.m., or during business hours at Lit's, Gimbel's, Wanamaker's, Snellenburgs, Strawbridge & Clothier.

## WALTER RINGER WINS AWARD FROM WATER WORKS OPERATORS

An outstanding honor in the water works field was won by Walter C. Ringer, the department's superintendent of water quality control, on August 10.

Mr. Ringer received the Ivan M. Glace Award from the Pennsylvania Water Works Operators' Association during the group's annual convention at State College, Pa. The association cited him for "distinctive achievements and contributions to the water works profession."

Mr. Ringer, who has been with the Water Department (and it predecessor the Water Bureau) for 29 years, conducted the City's early efforts to improve the quality of its water. He was instrumental in placing water quality research work on a professional basis in the period 1942-46. Associated ever since with laboratory studies of local river water, Mr. Ringer was placed in charge of a new division about a year ago. The division sets standards and procedures for the Water Department's various testing Laboratories. It also watches over supplies from up river sources.

A professional engineer, Mr. Ringer studied at the University of Pennsylvania. He took a "temporary" job with the City in 1930, and remained. Married, he has three children. He lives at 3221 West Queen Lane.

## LAST MINUTE REMINDER: THRILL SHOW TONIGHT

Is tonight going to be a dull evening: Don't let it ..... There's the fifth annual Hero Scholarship Thrill Show at the Philadelphia Stadium to banish all those office cares.

Celebrities ..... acts of daring .... band music ..... a fireworks display. It's a three-hour program, starting at 7:30 p.m. General admission, $1.00; reserved seats, $2.00; patron box seats, $5.00. There is plenty of room.

Tonight - September 11

## THE FAIRMOUNT WATER WORKS - 1829

## AN ACCOUNT OF FAIRMOUNT PUBLISHED IN LONDON - 1840

By N.P. Willis, Esq.

" The Water-works of Philadelphia rank among the most noble public undertakings of the world. The paucity of water in the city first set to work the sagacious mind of Dr. Franklin, who, by will, bequeathed a portion of a long accumulated legacy to bring a greater supply of this necessary element from Wissahiccon Creek. This was found, after a while to be insufficient; and a plan was proposed, and carried into operation, to form a reservoir on the east bank of the Schuylkill, from which water was to be thrown by a steam-engine into a tunnel, conveyed to a central position, and raised by a second engine to a higher reservoir, which supplied all the pipes in the city.

" An experience of ten years satisfied the corporation that a sufficient supply could not be obtained by this method. The steam-engines were liable to frequent accidents, and the derangement of one stopped the supply of the whole city. After several other futile experiments, the present extensive yet simple water-works were proposed, and three hundred and fifty thousand dollars voted at once by the city corporation for the commencement of the undertaking.

" The Schuylkill opposite Philadelphia is about nine hundred feet in breadth. It is subject to sudden freshets (an American word, unknown in this use in England, and meaning an overflow of a river current), but its average depth is thirty feet at high water. It was necessary to back the river up about six miles; and a dam was then created by cribs and masonry, running diagonally across, with several ingenious contrivances to prevent damage by ice and spring freshets. A overfall of one thousand two hundred and four feet, forming a beautiful feature of the scenery, is thus created, and a water-power upon the wheels sufficient to raise eleven millions of gallons in twenty-four hours.

" The reservoirs, elevated above the top of the highest house in the city, crown the ornamental hill which overhangs the river at this place; and water can thus be conveyed to every quarter of Philadelphia, and made to spring, as if by a magic touch, in the highest chamber of the inhabitant. It is of a deliciously soft and pleasant quality; and those who are habituated to wash in the "city of brotherly love", are spoiled for the less agreeable lavations afforded by other towns in America.

" Fair Mount is a beautiful spot; and standing, as it does, just on the skirt of the town, it serves the additional use of a place of pleasant and healthful public resort. The buildings containing the pumprooms have considerable pretensions to architecture; and the facades and galleries extend along the river, forming a showy object from every point of view, but from the absence of any grande design in the whole, failing of a general fine effect, and presenting what a Londoner would call rather a teagardenish appearance.

" Steppes and terraces conduct to the reservoirs, and thence the view over the ornamented grounds of the country seats opposite, and of a very picturesque and uneven country beyond, is exceedingly attractive. Below, the court of the principal building is laid out with gravel walks, and ornamented with fountains and flowering trees; and within the edifice there is a public drawing-room, of neat design and furniture; while in another wing are elegant refreshment-rooms - and, in short, all the appliances and means of a place of public amusement.

" It may as well be remarked here, that this last advantage is less improved in America than it would be in any other country. The Water-works of Fair Mount, though within fifteen minutes' walk of every citizen's dwelling in Philadelphia are (comparatively to its capacities) unfrequented. In several visits made to them in fine weather, we scarce saw more than three or four persons in the grounds; and those seemed looking for other company, more than enjoying the refreshing fountains and lovely prospects around them.

" As a people, we have no habit of amusement in America. Business and repose are the only two states of existence we know. How far Europeans have the better of us in this respect - how much our morals improve, or our health suffers, from the distaste for places of public relaxation and resort, are questions the political economists have not yet condescended to settle."

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Editor's Note: Philadelphia's second and third water works, which were built at Fairmount between 1815 and 1822, are today the City Aquarium. These graceful old edifices are still one of Philadelphia's most pleasant sights, overlooking a part of the river which has been greatly improved in recent years. The Sunday crowds which now come to Fairmount indicate that Philadelphians have at last caught the "habit of amusement."

Future issues of the NEWS will describe other portions of the Water Department's colorful history ..... a history that begins in 1801 with the first use of steam pumps for water distribution purposes.

## HOT OFF THE FIELD WIRE

From Harry Yohle, Meter Shop:

Gus D'Orio became a proud grandfather for the fourth time .... Joe Roche is back from Europe ..... saw all of his kinfolk in Germany .... A party is in the offing for Meter Shop employees .... host will be Joseph Skudar at his summer home in North Wildwood ..... It's flowers for Dick Reckeweg who's going into that business ..... David Joseph is home after a long period in the hospital.

From Shirley Henry, Delaware Division Pump:

It's back to work for Chief Ed Sweeney after a two-weeks vacation..... William Ehmann still convalescing after an operation on his foot.

From Mario Celoni, Design (Mains & Sewers):

Vacation memories are everywhere ..... Al Traceoff still smiling about Havana, Cuba .... Mario Celoni raving about Massachusetts food and Ray Finkelstein about mosquitoes at the shore .... Al Strouse still planning to settle down in Florida ..... Ed Brandy still spending his time ballroom dancing down at Cape May ..... and so it goes.

It's back to college for the four engineering students working in Design this summer .... John Casanto is off to Penn State .... James Hurchaller to Swarthmore ..... James Allen and James Sykes, Jr., to Villanova.

From Rocco Giannini, Design (Mechanical):

James Barrance had a wonderful boat trip .... sailed from New York to Quebec, Halifax and Bermuda.

From Harry S. Myers, Schuylkill Pumping Division

Carl Fink had nice weather (for a change) on his Wildwood vacation .... A. Stanley is back from the shore .... John Dunn has been ill ..... his fellow employees wish him a quick recovery.

## HIRE 21 NEW EMPLOYEES FOR VARIETY OF POSITIONS

The Water Department welcomed 21 new employees during the past month. They occupy a wide variety of positions in the department's scattered installations.

The list includes:

Clarence Altson, automotive mechanic at the Logan garage; William Mathis, pumping station mechanic helper in the Schuylkill pumping division; George Christo, machinist, Northeast sewage treatment works; John J. Waraska, steamfitter, plant maintenance division; George Smith, laborer at the Belmont water treatment plant, Alicie Johnson, bookkeeping machine operator, administrative division Dorothy Weischedel, switchboard operator, administrative division; Robert Albergotti, clerk-typist, Logan garage; Ann H. Colter, clerk-typist, administrative division; Alexander Poole, laborer, Belmont Plant.



Continued on page 12

## CITY AGENCIES ISSUE SEVERAL NEW PUBLICATIONS

Philadelphia's story is being told graphically with the appearance of several new publications at City Hall.

The Office of the City Representative has issued "Philadelphia in Fall", a colorful seasonal folder, which lists places of interest, important events, amusements, and other intriguing aspects of our city. Intended mainly for the hotel, convention and tourist trade, the folder is available free to anyone who calls at the City Representative's Office, Room 201, City Hall. That office has also issued a folder in color listing various film and speaker services available to the public.

Of special interest are two brochures in color published by the Records and Public Health Departments. Replete with pictures and other attractive illustrations, the booklets tell of the work of the two departments during the past four years. Copies may be obtained from the departments or from the Office of the City Representative.

## WATCH FOR WATER DEPARTMENT BOOKLETS

Several booklets intended to explain Water Department operations will soon be issued to the public. These include "Torresdale - the Push-Button Water Treatment Plant", a 16-page brochure with pictures; "The Story of Philadelphia's Water", a 16-page brochure in color with pictures; and an 8-page brochure on the department's new load control system. An attractive annual report will also appear in the near future.

The first two booklets should be ready for distribution by the end of September.

## MURRAY MCPHERSON RESIGNS TO TEACH AT ILLINOIS UNIV.

Murray B. McPherson resigned as water and sewer research engineer September 1 to take a teaching job at the University of Illinois.

Mr. McPherson was with the department for two years. Previously, he taught at Lehigh University. He is a civil engineering graduate of Bucknell University and studied hydraulics at Iowa State and Columbia Universities.

Cont'd from page 10

Charles W. Ruddock, laborer, Torresdale water treatment plant; Frank P. Sydnor, Jr., laborer, Torresdale plant; Arthur Bartlett, chemist, testing laboratory; Frank J. Fala, cement finisher, building maintenance; Violet D. Mulligan, clerk-typist, administrative division; Norman J. Prezworski, machinist, Southwest sewage treatment works; Barbara L. Luton, clerk-typist, distribution section; Charles A. Parks, laborer, Torresdale plant; Roosevelt Watson, laborer, Torresdale plant; Nellie A. Roberson, clerk-typist, Belmont laboratory.

## ELEVEN EMPLOYEES MOVE TO HIGHER DEPARTMENT JOBS

Eleven Water Department employees were promoted during the month of August and early September. A number of them reached higher supervisory levels.

James J. Johnson, of 6228 Algard Street, moved into the new Torresdale water treatment plant as maintenance supervisor. Mr. Johnson, who was previously a foreman at the Belmont plant, joined the old Water Bureau in February, 1947, as a filter equipment mechanic. He received training in maintenance of electrical equipment at an Atlantic City vocational school and in the U. S. Army Corps. This training will doubtless come in handy at Torresdale with its 340 miles of electrical conduits and wiring.

The laboratory of the Belmont water treatment plant has a new supervisor in the person of Ira W. Thompson, who was promoted from Chemist. Mr. Thompson, who entered the department in February, 1953, studied chemical engineering at the University of Pennsylvania. He worked as a chemist for the Rare Metal Products Company, Atglen, Pa., from 1946 to 1953. He lives at 220 West Coulter Street.

Three employees were promoted from water distribution foreman to assistant water distribution supervisor. They are Edward F. Goebel, 8408 Chippewa Road; Michael D. Elia, 2521 South Claymont Street; and Donato Caruso, 9226 Puritan Road.

Other promotions follow:

Earnest F. Smith, from laborer to equipment operator distribution section; James R. Hughey, from laborer to equipment operator, distribution section; Vincent A. Altomari, from public works inspector I to grade II, construction section; John P. Carr, from chemist I to II, Queen Lane laboratory; Rosetta Lindsay, from clerk-typist I to grade II, Belmont laboratory; Peter D. Holmes, from boilermaker to structural materials inspector, central stores section.

## SAFE DRIVING HINTS

Marathon driving is a deadly enemy of the motorist on vacation. Many motorists traveling on limited time and financial resources try to pack the maximum amount of driving into their vacation, thus greatly increasing chances of a traffic accident.

The driver who tries to set up an endurance record on his vacation trip runs the risk of extreme fatigue which reduces alertness and speed of reaction to danger.

These suggestions are offered:

(1) Start on your trip early in the morning so that you can stop early. It is a safe rule to drive not more than seven hours a day. Longer driving stints are dangerous.

(2) During your trip, stop every two hours for rest and refreshment. In this way, your driving efficiency remains at a maximum level throughout the day.

(3) If more than one passenger in your car can drive, take turns at the wheel.

(4) Drowsiness and "highway hypnosis" are constant threats to the motorists on long trips. To avoid them, converse with others in the car or listen to snappy music on the car radio. Also avoid heavy meals during your trip

(5) Above all, let moderation be your guide. It is better to cover fewer miles on your trip and return home safe and sound.

Taken from "The Car" AAA paper

## PASSED ON BY A CONTRIBUTOR

We squander health in search of wealth,
We scheme and toil and save,
Then squander wealth in search of health,
And all we get's a grave.

We live and boast of what we own,
We die and only get a stone.

## DUTIES OF CITY OFFICIALS - THE CITY SOLICITOR

Editor's Note: Some of the Mayor's broad powers were described in the last issue of the NEWS. This week a brief sketch is given of the City Solicitor's duties, since that official is a member of the Mayor's Cabinet.

Moving on the top policy making level, the City Solicitor is the chief legal officer of the municipality. A member of the Mayor's small Cabinet, he is advisor and representative of the City government in all civil aspects of the law as well as with respect to certain investigatory and enforcement functions.

This representation extends to all officers, departments, boards and commissions of the City. Since the City Solicitor is the only officer appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of a majority of the City Council, he is also the representative and counselor of the municipal legislative body.

The City Solicitor, who heads the Law Department, has the following basic responsibilities:

(1) Legal Advice: He advises all branches of the City government on legal aspects of their operations.

(2) Litigation: He represents the City in all suits or other legal action for the collection of debts, taxes, etc., due the City and in all actions involving claims against the City.

(3) Contracts, etc.: Bonds, contracts and other legal instruments to which the City is a party must be prepared and approved by the City Solicitor.

(4) Enforcement: No small part of his job is the enforcement of various City codes (fire, housing, plumbing, zoning, etc.) and the performance of investigations relating to these. With the approval of the Mayor, he may also investigate other violations of City ordinances, or of State statutes.

(5) Drafting: As advisor to the Council and departments, the City Solicitor drafts hundreds of ordinances annually. He also prepares and maintains the comprehensive Code of General Ordinances.

Over and above these basic duties, the City Solicitor is the legal champion of the community's interests. He presents the City's point of view before courts and regulatory commissions whenever a question arises affecting the public interest of Philadelphia.

# News

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| TORRESDALE PLANT | JOSEPH WATSON |

PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT ..... SEPTEMBER ISSUE 1959

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE ..... SEPTEMBER 28

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. DECEMBER, 1959

## SOUNDS OF CAROLS FILL COURTYARD OF CITY HALL

The Christmas spirit reigns in City Hall courtyard as carolers sing out the glad tidings each week day, noon and evening. Groups from City departments, local schools and community organizations are participating.

With a Christmas tree 51 feet high—the biggest in the City's history as a background—the carolers are drawing large crowds of shoppers and passersby. The tree is a blaze of colored lights.

The singing begins at 12:15 and 4:30 p.m. Loud speakers carry the carols to the perimeter of City Hall and send them north and south, east and west.

Courtyard caroling, organized by the Office of the City Representative, goes back a number of years. It is one of the more colorful features of Philadelphia's Christmas season.

The program includes singing by Water Department volunteers on Wednesday, December 23 at 12:15 p.m.

Merry Christmas Happy New Year

## PLAN FEBRUARY DINNER FOR 25-YEAR CLUBMEN

The Water Department's Quarter Century Club is growing at a fast clip. With 138 members already on its rolls, it will welcome 11 new members at a gala dinner on February 11.

The dinner, which will honor employees who have completed 25 years or more of service with the City Government, is being planned by a special committee headed by James A. Brady, Jr., chief of projects control. Attractive gold and blue pins will be presented to the new members. Top City officials will be invited to the dinner.

Besides Mr. Brady, the committee, recently named by Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, consists of Eugene Bonner, chief of sewer drainage information; Elmer Goebel, superintendent of water distribution; Philip McDowell, architectural supervisor; Mrs. Marion Redfield, construction; Charles Vickerman, assistant chief of water operations; and Robert Waters, superintendent of Schuylkill filters.

The 11 employees to be received into the club are: David T. Anderson, Harry J. Andrews, Carl W. Frey, Philip F. Jacobs, Harry T. Lesser, John McDevitt, Joseph McStravick, Francis O'Shea, Benjamin Pollock, John J. Tobin, and Daniel Travaglio. Watch for interesting biographical details on these men in the January issue of the "News".

While a detailed search of records is made each year by the Water Department personnel office to identify veteran employees entitled to club membership, it is possible that someone will be overlooked. Any employee (not previously listed) who feels that he has completed 25 years of City service as of December 31, 1959 should contact Chairman Brady, aut. 463 or LO-8-5950 ext. 33 no later than the end of December.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

*As we approach Christmas and New Year, I cannot help expressing my warm thanks for the loyal and dedicated performance which Water Department employees have given during 1959. The past year was one of far reaching accomplishment. The modernization program was carried to completion at Torresdale and well on its way in numerous other projects. Our internal efficiency and the quality of service we give the public continue to rise.*

*In these achievements every Water Department employee has played a role . . . from the top administrator down through the ranks.*

*This kind of teamwork does not spring from just doing the job. It comes from a true public spirit and a belief in the purpose of the department. Our spirit and our purpose have never been a mystery. They are "service" . . . the best kind of service of which we are capable.*

*I offer each one of you my sincere wishes for a joyous Christmas and a truly rewarding New Year.*

*Samuel S. Baxter*


**Honest, 3 out of 4 Santas prefer it.*


## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Published Monthly By**
**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

**Commissioner** . . . . . Samuel S. Baxter
**Editor** . . . . . Raymond J. Harris
**Art** . . . . . Henry Cheatham
James Gaskin
**Printing** . . . . . Wilbert Mitchell & Staff

| DIVISION | REPORTER |
|---|---|
| Administrative | Rosemary Rosenthal |
| Construction | Mary A. Shea |
| Customer Service | Lillian Greenfield |
| Design (Distribution) | Frank Clyde |
| Design (Electrical | Louis B. Sklar |
| Design (Hydraulic) | John Mirkil |
| Design (Main Sewers) | Mario G. Celonni |
| Design (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
| Design (Specifications) | Joseph Mair |
| Design (Structural) | Morris Siegel |
| Distribution | George Braden |
| Garage (Logan Street) | Robert Runkle, Jr. |
| Mechanical Engineering | Harry Myers |
| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo |
| | Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | James Marinan |
| Pumping— | Vacant |
| Delaware Division | Shirley Henry |
| Southeast Works | Robert Jones |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Universal Metering | Virginia Kotyk |
| Water Main Records | Edward Migliaccio |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Joseph Watson |


## PROMOTE SEVEN EMPLOYEES

Promotions were won by seven Water Department employees in the past month.

Heading the list was Samuel Kolbhoff, a civil engineer in the Design division, who advanced from class 3 to class 4. Mr. Kolbhoff, who lives at 5202 "D" St., joined the Bureau of Engineering in the old Department of Public Works in October, 1939. For many years he was engaged in the design of sewers and sewage intercepting chambers.

Others promoted were:

Robert D. Keels, 2031 Wilder St., from filter plant mechanic helper to equipment operator 1, Distribution division.

Ronald E. Harper, 120 North Wilton St., from chemist, class 1 to class 2, Torresdale Water Treatment plant.

Ralph Jacquinto, 5821 Wakefield St., from pumping station mechanic helper to equipment operator 1, Sewer Maintenance section.

Peter Palermo, 4059 Claridge St., from electrician to labor foreman 1, Torresdale Water Treatment plant.

Frank E. Smith, 231 South 40th St., from bacteriologist, class 1 to class 2, Torresdale laboratory.

Donald R. Randall, 5658 Ardleigh St., from chemist, class 1 to class 2, Northeast Sewage Treatment works.

# CITY EMPLOYEES TO GET PAY INCREASE JAN. 4

For City employees the New Year will be a little brighter . . . thanks to a 6% pay increase which will become effective January 4, 1960.

Many hands were active in brightening the New Year. City officials and representatives of District Council 33, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFL-CIO), worked out the original basis of the increase. The Mayor recommended it to the City Council. The latter appropriated the funds. The Civil Service Commission gave its OK.

Perhaps one of the nicer things about the increase is that it does not affect the annual increment to which the employee is normally entitled. Thus some employees will receive the 6% increase plus an increment in January; others will get their increment later in the year.

For the Water Department reader who is wondering about the "when" and "how" of all this, a few useful facts follow.

*Amount:* The 6% increase is based on annual salary as of January 1, 1960. As noted, the date the raise takes effect is January 4.

*First Pay Check:* As a Water Department employee, you will receive two pay checks on January 15, 1960. The checks will cover five days at the old pay rate and five days at the new rate. Your January 29 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 11, 1960 when the Water Department's first full pay period begins. It will appear in the January 29 check.

*Payroll Deductions:* Along with the 6% increase in salary (and later the increment) will come changes in your deductions. Federal taxes, City wage 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 29.

"I take it that your income tax is paid"

*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.

*Other Benefits:* The Water Department has not been informed officially of any new benefits (other than those noted above) to be given City employees. Information on future benefits, if any, will appear in the Water Department NEWS.

## VETERAN WORKERS RETIRE

Retirement has come to four veteran employees after many years of service.

☆

The department extends its best wishes to the following employees:

☆

Pasquale LaRosa, 66, of 212 East Price St., has completed 16 years in water operations. A laborer at the Queen Lane Water Treatment plant at the time of retirement, Mr. LaRosa entered City service in July, 1943. He was employed previously by the Ford Motor Company at Chester, Pa.

☆

David Medway, 70, of 1755 North 53rd St., was with the City for 17 years. From 1918 to 1932, he worked for Radio Corporation of America in Camden, N. J. His most recent job with the Water Department was in the Customer Service section as a field inspector.

☆

Albert Gogel, 65, of 2028 East Clearfield St., was a watchman and veteran of 13 years. Before entering City service in March, 1946, Mr. Gogel was employed in various knitting mills as a knitter.

☆

James F. McLaughlin, of 5916 Henry Ave., took his first job with the City in 1947 as a sewer inspector. His last position was public works inspector.

## *A Forward Look*

*We soon are through with fifty-nine*
*And now will pick up sixty.*
*To meet new taxes, bills and such*
*Let's practice to be thrifty.*

*Next year is filled with promises*
*No matter what your goal.*
*Keep mind and body always fit,*
*But don't forget the soul.*

*We now have beatniks, strikes and such*
*Which muddle up our thinking*
*The cold war still is with us,*
*But as yet, no ships are sinking.*

*Two thousand years have passed since Plato*
*Gave advice, good on this date too.*
*If mind and body you wish to be whole*
*You must begin by curing the soul.*

*George Fred Smith*
*Customer Service Section*

# RECREATION ASSOCIATION OFFERS XMAS BARGAIN NEW MEMBERSHIPS FOR ONE U.$. DOLLAR

The lonely dollar doesn't go very far nowadays . . . except in the Water Department. There a genuine Christmas bargain is being offered.

The Employees' Recreation Association, operated and managed by the department's employees, is offering year-long memberships for just one dollar. That dollar is an open door to bowling, softball, golf, basketball, baseball, and for the brainy, a bit of chess.

Not only can the member participate in various "leagues" (with equipment being bought or rented by the association), but various pleasant surprises come his way. Currently special tickets, at a discount, are being sold to members who desire to attend the Ice Follies. Other tickets are expected to be offered at a 20% discount for a performance of "Ben Hur" in January or February.

There's a bowling league in full bloom (or should it be "boom") every Friday night at 7:00 o'clock under the expert guidance of the Meter Shop's Russell Thomas. It meets at the Bowlerdrome, Hunting Park and 31st St.

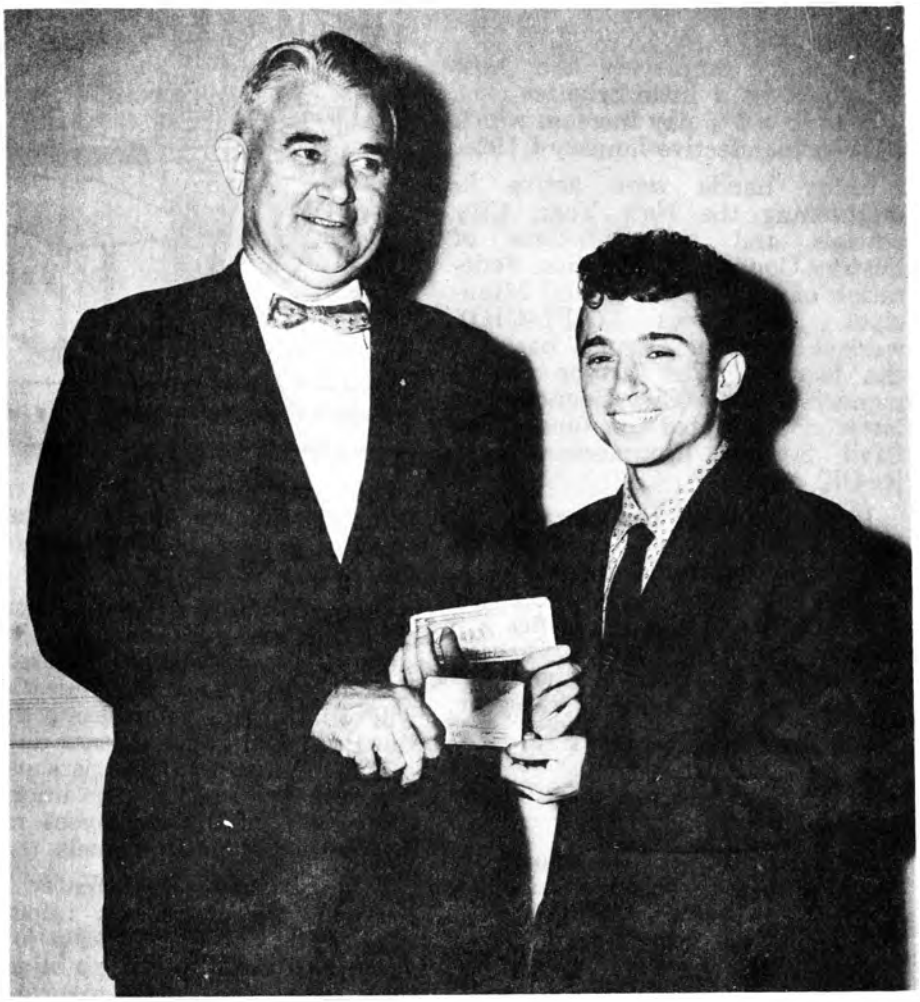
Distaff members of the department get special attention. A Ladies Bowling League is being formed by Miss Marianne Leva, of the Accounting section (aut. 2184). It will meet at a center city bowling alley on Monday or Friday night.

James Marinan, of plant maintenance, is in charge of basketball practice every Thursday evening at Dobbins Vocational High School gymnasium, 22nd St. and Lehigh Ave. John Mirkil, of the Design division (aut. 926), is out to arrange chess matches for all comers. Edward Thompson, of the Roxborough water treatment plant, is spearheading a move to form a golf club, which would play on City courses. Golfers should contact him at Iv-3-5717 or aut. 2613, or call his partner Ken Zitomer at Vi 4-4449. In the spring the department's fine coach, Lesser Lindenbaum, will put his champion team through warm-up paces at the Dobbins School gym.

These various activities are just a foretaste of larger things to come.

How can you join? That's easy.

One of the following authorized representatives of the association will accept your dollar and issue you a membership card: Water Operations Administration, A. Attarian; Queen Lane Treatment plant, E. Barrett; Customer Service, J. Craney; Delaware Pumps, J. Gavitt; Building Maintenance, B. Golderer; Southeast works, C. Grady; Belmont treatment plant and pumping station, G. Helmar; Central Stores, V. Ilg; General Administration, J. Irwin; Queen Lane Pumping station, H. Kappe; Southwest works, L. Lindenbaum; Sewage Operations, J. McCarthy; plant maintenance, J. Marinan; Design, J. Mirkil; Northeast works, J. Pallante; Roxborough Treatment plant and Pumping station, R. Pearl; Torresdale Treatment plant, J. Pierce; Distribution, M. Pirolli; Automotive Maintenance, B. Runkle; Fairhill Pumping station, B. Schiavo; Meter shop, R. Thomas; Construction, K. Zitomer.



**Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter knows a good thing when he sees it. John Craney, of Customer Service, sells him one of the first membership cards in the current campaign of the Employees' Recreation Association.**


*"Seen anything of a Bowling Ball?"*

## DESIGN DIVISION LEADS DRIVE FOR REC MEMBERS

The membership campaign of the Employees' Recreation Association is moving faster than last year. With less than two months to go (the drive closes January 29), the total 1960 membership is approximately equal to that of 1959.

Leading the way is the Design division, which has a 93% employee enrollment in the association. Credit for this achievement is due to John Mirkil and his helpers. John reports that the specifications, hydraulic, main sewers and electrical squads have 100% membership.

The department's Construction division is also ahead of last year's enrollment rate. Belmont (both the plant and the pumping station) and the General Administration division have passed the 50% mark.

Further impetus was given the campaign at the November meeting of the association's board of directors. Seven additional campaign representatives were appointed, bringing the total to 22.

The board also decided to send an activities questionnaire to each member at the close of the campaign. After the questionnaires have been tabulated, the board will decide what activities to include in an enlarged program.

For information on any activity or on the membership campaign, Water Department employees may call Joseph Goldberger, assistant personnel officer, aut. 2871 or Bell ext. 227.


## RECREATION ASSOCIATION EVENTS CALENDAR

*Photography Fans:* Watch the next issue of the "News" for announcement of a Recreation Association Photography Contest.

*Movie Goers:* The association expects to sell tickets, at a 20% discount, for a performance of "Ben Hur" in January or early February. Announcements and mail order applications will be mailed to association members about January 1. Tickets will be available to members only.

*Ice Follies Fans:* Tuesday, January 5, will be "Association Night" for members of the Employees' Recreation Association attending the Ice Follies. The association has been offering a limited number of reduced price tickets (now almost exhausted) to its members on a first come first served basis . . . $4 tickets for $3, and $2.50 tickets for $1.85. Your association representative might have **one** left.


An old gent went to his doctor for a blood test, explaining he was about to get married.

"Really," admiringly asked the doc, "how old are you?"

The old fellow replied that he was 84. Asked how old the bride was, he answered, "She's going on 22."

Very alarmed, the doctor cautioned, "Don't you realize that kind of a difference in ages could be fatal?"

"Well," wheezed the old man with a shrug, "if she dies, she dies."

# *Why Join the Recreation Association?*

1. Who sponsors the Association and who is eligible to join? Is it necessary to join in order to participate in Association sponsored activities?

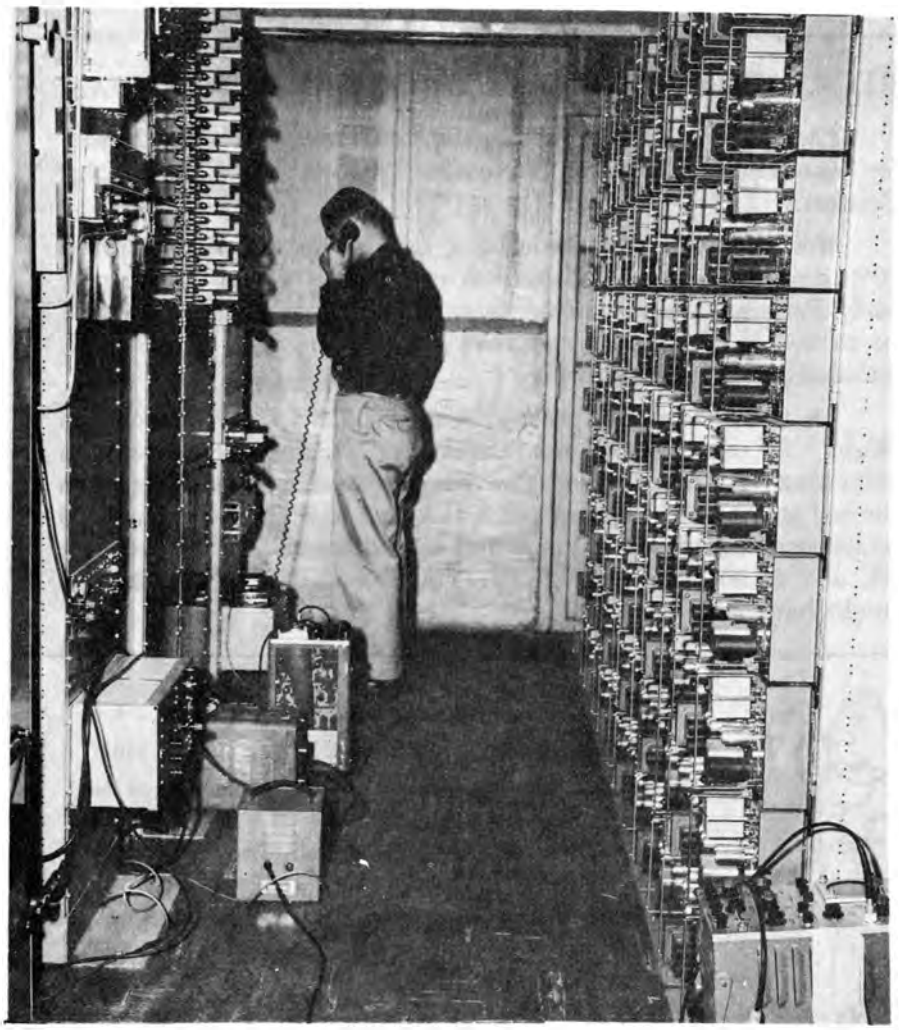
ANSWER: The Association was formed by and for Water Department employees. The Association has the complete support of the Water Department management. Every Water Department employee is eligible to join. You must be a member to participate in activities.

2. How much does a membership cost and what are the dues used for?

ANSWER: A membership in the Association costs $1.00. In the past, membership dues have accounted for the support of the following activities: golf tournament, softball team, prizes for Association sponsored activities, and rental and buying of various kinds of athletic equipment.

3. What is the Board of Directors and what "principles" do they follow in setting up a recreation program?

ANSWER: The Board of Directors is made up of your fellow employees. The Board is responsible for the overall initiation and operation of each activity. The Board attempts to keep in mind the following points in setting up an activities program. First, we try to provide a sufficient variety of activities to meet the individual needs and desires of all Association members, including activities during the noon hour, before and after work, and during holidays and vacations. Second, we believe that the Association program should be planned and administered by the members themselves and that the Association should provide a proving ground for the selection and training of volunteer leaders. Third, we try to provide special events during the year to relieve the monotony of "sameness". Lastly, we hope to try to include classes in various types of physical, social and cultural types of recreation.



**Extensive tests are being conducted at the department's new load control center prior to its official opening. The center will receive instantaneous information by microwave from scattered points in the water distribution system.**

## SCHOOL'S OVERCROWDED BUT — 27 WATER EMPLOYEES MAKE IT

The interest of Water Department employees in self-betterment and good public service was underlined recently when 51 employees applied for the courses currently offered by the Philadelphia Government Training Institute.

Only 27 of the applicants could be scheduled for the current classes, but the balance will be placed in class when the courses are repeated next spring.

The newly organized Philadelphia Government Training Institute is operated jointly by the City Government, the School District, and several local colleges and universities. Four courses covering City Government organization, supervision, labor relations, and communications are offered. Each "student" pays $6 for the privilege of spending one evening a week in class.

The 27 Water Department class members represent a sizable chunk of the total enrollment of 115 in the institute.

Enrolled from the department are Arthur Barlett, Ann H. Colter, Joseph E. Cooper, Harold Crawford, Ervin L. Davis, Hubert J. DiGiacomo, Elmer Goebel, Florence E. Graham, Robert W. Henry, Jr., Frank P. Ingenito, Margaret Jenkins, James J. Johnson, Rosetta Lindsay, Bartholomew F. Monaghan, Frank A. Rogers, Leo Ivan Sanders, Rose Sideman, William Snyder, Richard S. Starr, Lawrence Stallworth, Walter P. Strehle, Leon S. Taylor, William J. Thompson, Robert Waters, William C. Williams, Edward Witkowski, Charles L. Wragg, Anna M. Dougherty, Edward J. McManus, Jr., and Dorothy L. Watson.

# *Personal Notes*

*Personnel*—"Big Jack" Sassman, the most eligible bachelor in the Water Department, has finally turned in his bachelor's button and replaced it with an "I'm engaged" look. Ginny Kotyk, also a department employee, is the girl for whom the wedding bells will sound.

☆

Jean Powers is still hearing Hawaiian music ringing in her ears after spending two weeks vacation in Hawaii. Jean went on her vacation with a guided tour, and spent three days in San Francisco and three days in Los Angeles. She talks about "going back and living the life of the Hawaiians."

☆

*Del. Div. Pumps*—Our sympathies to Harry Canty on the death of his father . . . We wish Charlie Silvestri, still in the hospital following an operation, a speedy recovery.

☆

Best wishes and good luck to former Police Sergeant Jacob F. Fries on his retirement. Mr. Fries, who joined the police force Oct. 31, 1950, entered the Water Department April 28, 1958 after being injured on duty. Very friendly and helpful, Mr. Fries did a fine job of organizing the office as a clerk-typist II. Married, with one daughter, he has no special plans except to take life easy. Address: 10134 Bustleton Avenue.

☆

*Administration* — Irma Booker Foster, of sewerage operations, left Dec. 11 to await the birth of her baby. She hopes to return after six months or so. We all wish her the best of luck on this happy occasion.

☆

Sincerest sympathy to John McCarthy, of sewerage operations, on the loss of his mother, and to Samuel Wagner, of projects control, on the sudden loss of his father.

☆

*Sewer Maint.*—Congratulations to Frank Rogers, who will be wed this month.

☆

*Meter Shop*—Mr. and Mrs. Harry Yablin celebrated their wedding anniversary in Atlantic City N. J.

# TO SEND WATER BILLS SEMI-ANNUALLY IN 1960

Progress is a familiar word in the Water Department.

The year 1959 was full of it . . . the Torresdale opening . . . Queen Lane reconstruction . . . the load control center . . . and modernization in every direction.

Not content with these achievements, the Water Department is now about to offer its customers another important service . . . a new billing system known as "cycle billing."

Under the new system, the Water Department's half-million domestic customers will get two evenly spaced bills annually, dividing their yearly obligations roughly in half.

The City will read every domestic customer's water meter twice a year, six months apart. In the case of the 15,000 commercial, industrial and other large users, readings will occur quarterly or monthly. A few days after each reading, the customer will receive a bill for water and sewer charges. Each bill will contain all charges against the customer up to the date of the reading . . . current charges, as well as any delinquent charge back to January 1, 1960.

The old system of sending out separate "Minimum" and "Excess" bills will be abolished. Under the new system, the annual service, or minimum, charge to domestic customers will be split between the two new semi-annual bills, while charges for so-called excess consumption will be included in these bills. Normally the customer's semi-annual bill will include service charges for three months in advance and three months past, as well as the extra usage (or excess) charges for the six-months period between meter readings.

During the first six months of 1960, however, the first bill may cover longer or shorter periods than normal. This is required by problems involved in the changeover from the old system to the new.

What benefits will the customer receive from the new system?

In the long run, he will be making smaller cash outlays at any one time. There may be some exceptions to this during the first six months.

The customer will also have an up to date picture of how his account stands, for if he fails to pay his bill, the unpaid charges will be added to his next bill. Reminder notices will be frequent.

Benefits will also accrue to the City. The work load of the Department of Collections will be spread evenly over the year. There will be substantial long run savings. Customer relations of the Water Department should improve.

## A PERSONAL MESSAGE

My wife and I would like to thank each and every one of my fellow workers who saw fit to volunteer to give blood for our daughter. It is through their kind help that our daughter is alive today. It makes a person feel great to know that in time of need there is always someone ready to help his fellow man.

Again may we say, "Thank you", from the bottom of our hearts.

Sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Moran

## DEPARTMENT SWEEPS ACROSS FINISH LINE WITH $27 TO SPARE IN UNITED FUND DRIVE

It was more than a photo finish as the Water Department raced against time to exceed its quota in the United Fund drive. When the finishing tape was broken at 5:00 p.m. on the last day, the department had collected $8,332.68. The goal had been surpassed by more than $27.

Since this year's quota was 15% above that of last year, the department's feat was no small one.

Much of the credit for the successful drive belongs to John Sassman, Dorothy Kutys, the 89 departmental solicitors, and stewards of Union Local No. 394. The quiet guiding spirit (as in the past) was B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director.

Of the department's 1,660 employees, a total of 1,407 (or 84.8%) contributed.

Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter expressed his gratification over the broad participation by employees, who "once again have demonstrated the warm community service spirit so much a part of the way of doing things in our department." The Commissioner commended departmental representatives who spearheaded the drive for their "untiring interest and truly first class job."

Contributions by the various departmental units follow.

| | 1958 | 1959 |
|---|---|---|
| Administration | $ 522.98 | $ 663.97 |
| Construction | 815.50 | 1,140.70 |
| Distribution | 1,193.91 | 1,151.76 |
| Water Oper. Office | 173.49 | 195.04 |
| Schuyl. Pumps | 404.78 | 406.29 |
| Delaware Pumps | 207.21 | 170.25 |
| Belmont Treat. | 198.38 | 199.93 |
| Queen Lane Treat. | 326.21 | 351.08 |
| Torresdale Treat. | 273.57 | 360.74 |
| Roxboro Treat. | 101.03 | 136.89 |
| Fairhill H. P. | 179.01 | 175.26 |
| Race St. H. P. | 106.00 | 81.00 |
| Logan St. Garage | 105.13 | 94.65 |
| Meter Shop | 274.31 | 313.10 |
| Plt. Maint. & Shop | 73.07 | 198.07 |
| Customer Service | 213.13 | 217.90 |
| Sewer Maintenance | 246.14 | 259.19 |
| Design Section | 437.05 | 552.56 |
| Industrial Wastes | 32.95 | 38.15 |
| Projects Control | 82.40 | 96.92 |
| Testing Lab | 85.36 | 112.79 |
| Northeast Works | 526.00 | 523.06 |
| Southwest Works | 400.95 | 433.71 |
| Southeast Works | 196.94 | 180.47 |
| Univer. Metering | 47.25 | 14.25 |
| Sewer. Oper. Office | .... | 162.95 |
| Miscellaneous | .... | 102.00 |
| | $7,222.75 | $8,332.68 |

**DESIGN MEN "RELAX" WITH CHESS**

*A bit of chess . . . a spot of tea*
*A friendly hour . . . and philosophy*

## DESIGN MEN KEEP FIT WITH NOONTIME CHESS

Some City employees have wondered what to do with that long long lunch hour. Not so the brainy workers in the Water Department's Design section. When the clock strikes high noon, drafting pencils are dropped and employees sit down to a relaxing game of chess.

There is a purpose behind this seeming madness . . . quite apart from easing up on the morning's mental labors over the drafting board. The Design section has a crack chess team, and this little noontime recreation keeps chess muscles in good trim in case some outside challenger should seek a game. For several months now the Design section has posed a standing challenge to other sections of the department, but no one has been imprudent enough to take it up.

For those who wonder how the experts are doing among themselves, we offer the following resume.

Gustave Van Nyanatten still maintains his October lead with four victories and no losses, while Allen Stackhouse, who was down in third place, has climbed to second place with five wins and only one defeat.

Jack Mooney is up from fourth place to third, with four victories and two defeats. Standings of other players (with wins and losses in that order) follow:

John Mirkil, four and three; Samuel Gerson, one and one; Thomas Smith, one and two; Stanley Carroll, one and three; Joseph Mair, zero and one; George Bey, zero and one; Myron Reiner, zero and two; Moe Duluzio, zero and two; Emily Clark, zero and three.

Challengers, if any, please contact John Mirkil, aut. 926.

"AS YOUR BOSS, I'M ENTITLED TO BE SOMEWHAT UNREASONABLE AT TIMES!"

## FIFTEEN NEW EMPLOYEES ENTER VARIOUS DEPARTMENT POSITIONS

Fifteen new employees entered the Water Department recently. They will fill a variety of jobs in scattered departmental locations.

They include: Milton Gordon, of Washington Lane and Chew Ave., a laboratory procedures analyst in the Administrative division; George Tillman, Jr., 1503 North Conestoga St., a plant helper at Northeast Sewage Treatment works; Joel J. Levin, 6211 Castor Ave., an accountant I in the Administrative division; Miss Hester H. Walker, 2840 West Harold St., clerk-typist I in the Distribution section; Miss Georgiann Harrell, 1119 South Clifton St., clerk I at the Meter shop; Charles L. Slaughter, 3054 Titan St., sewage interceptor serviceman at the Southwest Sewage Treatment works; Roscoe N. Tate, 505 South 75th St., a crane operator in the Sewer Maintenance section; Frank J. Dowd, 2830 North Bailey St., Blacksmith in the Plant Maintenance section; Miss Vergie M. Duncan, 2838 West Diamond St., clerk-typist I in the Distribution section; Thomas J. Hansen, 604 East Thayer St., electrician at the Torresdale water treatment plant.

Five repairman trainees were hired for the Distribution section. They are Alfred E. Upshur, 8202 Holstein Ave., Leetoy Harris, 3807 Pennsgrove St.; Robert Patten, 900 B Myrtle Place; Mercer Washington, 1006 South 5th St.; and Harry Darby, 831 C Alder Place.

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. FEBRUARY, 1960

## BIG MOMENT FOR CAMERA FANS ARRIVES
## ANNOUNCE AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

For camera enthusiasts the Employees' Recreation Association announces an Amateur Photography Contest, which will run April 18.

John H. Mirkil, contest coordinator, lists a first prize of $10 for the best color picture, with a similar award for the best black and white offering. The second prize in each class will be $5. To top it off, winning photographs will be published in the Water Department News.

There is only a slight catch in this rosy announcement. You must be an "amateur" photographer (meaning, we suppose, no professional models in your past), and you should be a member of the association. These are simple qualifications to meet. Provided you can click a camera and provided you join the association ($1 will do it), you may participate.

Pictures will be judged for general eye appeal and interest, and they may cover any conceivable subject. While photographic quality is important, it will not necessarily be deciding. Any picture made after December 1, 1959 is eligible.

Here's how to enter the contest. Enclose your snapshot in an envelope, with your name, address, and work station on a separate sheet of paper (but don't put your name on the snapshot). Send the envelope to John H. Mirkil, Design division, 10th floor, Penn Square Bldg., Philadelphia 7, Pa. You may enter one color, and one black and white, picture. Keep the original negatives in a safe place at home. The judge will want to see them eventually. Pictures will be returned on request.

You may use any type of camera. You may make black and white snapshots from any brand of negative type black and white film, but not from color film.

Among the restrictions are the following. Pictures must not have been entered in any other exhibit where prizes were awarded. Print enlargements cannot be bigger then five by seven inches. Also forbidden: Art work or retouching on prints or on the negatives from which they are made; composite pictures such as multiple printing on montages; mounting and framing.

Copies of the official contest rules are posted on bulleting boards. You may also obtain copies from your association representative or supervisor.

P. S. —The name of the judge is locked in the department's secret vault.

INVENTOR WITH "CYCLEVIEWER"

**Samuel Schwartz, assistant to the Commissioner, demonstrates his "cycleviewer", a slide rule like device which shows water customers at a glance the periods covered by their bills. Because of its usefulness in explaining the new cycle billing system, Sam's invention (produced in blackboard and pocket size forms) is becoming a popular item with City employees, banks and mortgage companies.**

### MUSEUM OF ART

*The famed Courbet exhibition will continue to February 14. Don't miss the 86 major paintings showing Gustave Courbet in all of his important periods and styles. These renowned paintings have been gathered from Europe and America. Mid-19th century artist, Courbet brought realism to painting, influencing numerous painters who followed.*


**"You're deliberately paying attention just to confuse me."**

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

After his talk to the Sunday school class, the minister asked if there were any questions. A shrill voice piped up: "Please sir, why did the angels walk up and down Jacob's ladder when they had wings?"

"Ah, er—a good question," said the minister. "Now would anyone like to answer it?"

## EVEN O'ER PRISON WALLS CHESS HATH ITS CHARMS

Two crack chess teams moved into the fray on January 16 when the Design division played inmates of the State Correctional Institution at Philadelphia (formerly Eastern State Penitentiary).

The chess match brought Design engineers face to face with an undefeated opponent. A participant in City-wide Chess Championship games, the institution's team proved to have several formidable players.

Although some Water Department players are reported to have been reluctant to enter the cold, gray walls, the contest was friendly and the three players who made the trip had a good time.

Representing the Design Division were three of its best men—Gustave Van Nyanatten, Samuel Gerson, and John Mirkil. Mr. Gerson was captain of the 1919 and 1920 chess teams at the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Van Nyanatten, who has won a number of awards in tournament play, conducted chess classes in 1946 for British military forces stationed along the Rhine River in Germany. Mr. Mirkil has seen a good deal of chess action.

Oh, yes. Who won? It was a **draw.**

## FREE LIBRARY EVENTS

*Concerts:* — Central Library, Logan Square, Feb. 17, Philadelphia Brass Ensemble.

*Lectures by Authors:*—Philadelphia City Institute Library, 19th and Locusts Sts., Feb. 10, Lloyd Alexander, "Kiboko"; March 9, John J. Pullen, "The Twentieth Maine"; April 13, John Maass, "The Gingerbread Age".

Time: 8:00 p.m.


# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Published Monthly By**

**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

**Commissioner** ..... Samuel S. Baxter
**Editor** ..... Raymond J. Harris
**Art** ..... Henry Cheatham
James Gaskin
**Printing** ..... Wilbert Mitchell & Staff

| DIVISION | REPORTER |
|---|---|
| Administrative | Rosemary Rosenthal |
| Construction | Mary A. Shea |
| Customer Service | Lillian Greenfield |
| Design (Distribution) | Frank Clyde |
| Design (Electrical | Louis B. Sklar |
| Design (Hydraulic) | John Mirkil |
| Design (Main Sewers) | Mario G. Celonni |
| Design (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
| Design (Specifications) | Joseph Mair |
| Design (Structural) | Morris Siegel |
| Distribution | George Braden |
| Garage (Logan Street) | Robert Runkle, Jr. |
| Mechanical Engineering | Harry Myers |
| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo |
| | Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | James Marinan |
| Pumping— | Vacant |
| Delaware Division | Shirley Henry |
| Southeast Works | Robert Jones |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Universal Metering | Virginia Kotyk |
| Water Main Records | Edward Migliaccio |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Joseph Watson |


## ROBERT RUNKLE LEADS BAND IN SHOW OF SHOW

Robert Runkle, of the Logan Garage, has been leading his Uptown String Band in a series of performances at Convention Hall when Philadelphia Mummers' String Bands put on their annual "Show of Shows."

**Three representatives of the Design division's chess team face State Correctional Institution's crack players in hard fought chess game at institution. The undefeated prison team can draw upon 60 players. L. to r., backgroud, John Mirkil, Samuel Gerson, Gustave Van Nyanatten.**

# New Programs Pave Way For Employee Promotion

New facilities and training programs are opening attractive promotional opportunities for Water Department employees.

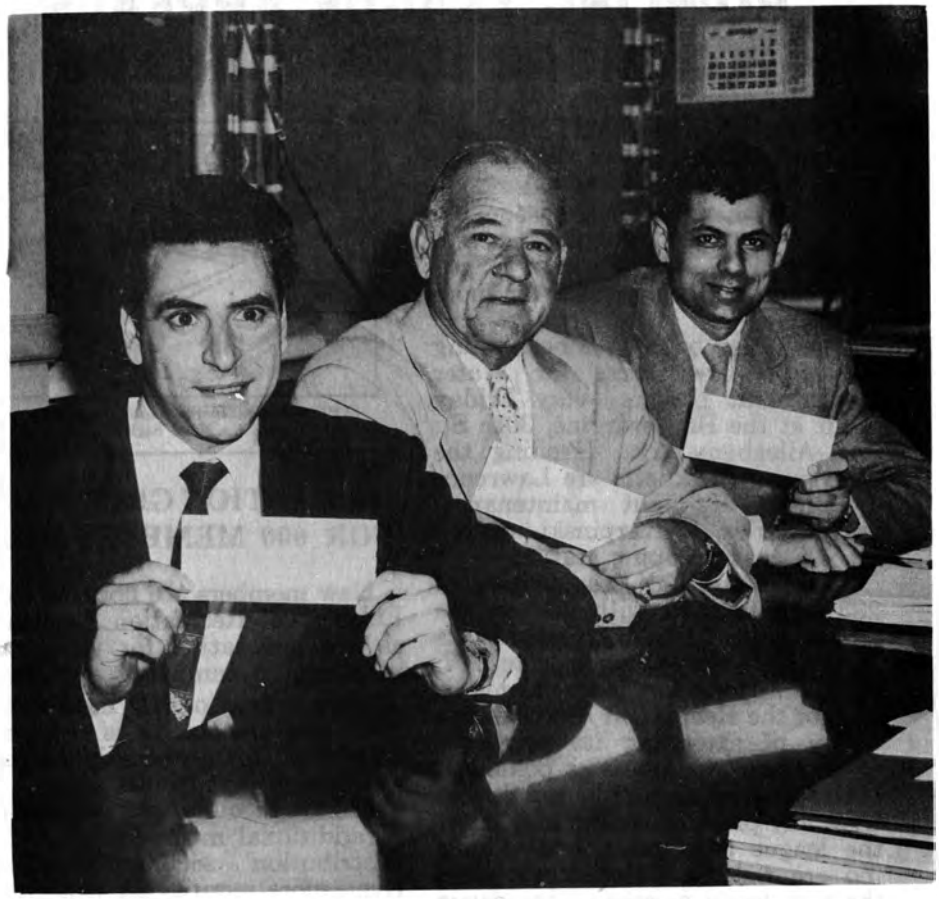
Four such opportunities are at the new Torresdale water treatment plant and will be open to Civil Service competition by 30 employees who recently completed a special training course. The positions, "Filter Plant Mechanic-Electrical Operator," pay $4,258 to $4,882 yearly. The trainees, drawn from the various water treatment plants, were given two weeks of class instruction and one week of on-the-job training.

Official opening of the new Load Control Center in the near future will require four positions as "Water System Load Control Dispatcher" to maintain round-the-clock operation. Paying $5,597 to $7,030 annually, the positions are highly specialized. A measure of the interest among Water employees is the fact that thirty applied to take the examination.

Seven employees will complete special training for water distribution repairman jobs by early February and will be placed in positions as they open.

Along with the positions created by these special programs, a number of other jobs are being offered by the department (and in many cases other City agencies). These include: Clerk Stenographer I, $3,283,548; Clerk Stenographer II, $3,712-$4,068; Key Punch Operator I, $2,825-$3,548; Key Punch Operator II, $3,094-$3,886; Public Works Inspector I, $4,068-$5,109; Tabulating Equipment Operator I, $3,238-$4,68 Tabulating Equipment Operator II, $3,712-$4,664; Public Works Inspector II, (promotional only), $4,882-$6,131; Accountant II, $4,882-$6,131; Accounting Procedures Analyst, $7,701-$9,242; Bookkeeping Machine Operator, $3,094-$3,886; Budget Officer II, $8,061-$9,242; Chemist I, $4,258-$5,358; Civil Engineer II, (Design), $6,417-$8,061; Graduate Engineer, $5,348-$6,131; Laboratory Technician (Bacteriology), $3,548-$4,456; Laboratory Technician, $3,548-$4,456.

Application forms and announcements may be obtained from the Personnel Department's recruitment Office, room 127, City Hall, by personal visit, telephone, or letter.



**Good ideas have their reward. Salvatore DeLuca, Eugene McCabe, and Vincent Puccio (left to right) display checks received under City's suggestion system for ideas that improve Water Department operations. DeLuca won $150, McCabe $100, Puccio $15.**

## THREE "COOL" WATER MEN SPLASH INTO THE MONEY WITH NEW IDEAS

That good ideas may pay off handsomely was shown recently when Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter presented checks to three alert Water Water Department men.

The checks were in recognition of work improving suggestions submitted by Salvatore DeLuca, Eugene McCabe, and Vincent Puccio. Running the gamut of various departmental officials, the ideas were good enough to reach the City's central Awards Board, which gave final approval.

Mr. DeLuca, an operator at the Southeast sewage treatment works, won $150 for suggesting a way to make interchangeable use of sludge pumps. This, according to Ralph Hoot, chief of sewage treatment, will increase the efficiency of sludge pumping operations at Southeast.

Fire hose can now be used on sewer maintenance trucks in place of the stiff discharge hose hitherto used, thanks to Eugene McCabe, a foreman in sewer maintenance. The regular discharge hose is more costly than fire hose and more difficult to handle. By means of an "adopter", suggested by Mr. McCabe, the Water Department now uses condemned fire hose at no cost. Needless to add, Mr. McCabe received $100 for his idea.

Fifteen dollars went to Vincent Puccio, a repairman at the meter shop, for suggesting the use of a power sweeper to clean the yards at Distribution headquarters, 29th and Cambria Sts. Not only are the yards easier to clean now, but their general appearance has improved.

# BOWLING LEAGUE APPEALS FOR MORE BALL HURLERS

A "BOWLERS WANTED" sign has been hung out by the Employees' Recreation Association.

With a bang-up half season behind it, the league is out to expand even more. Russell Thomas, league coordinator, has appealed for more teams.

The rolling balls have been piling up impressive scores for Water Department players every Friday night at the Bowlerdrome, 30th St. and Allegheny Ave. Heading the emerging ball experts are Lawrence J. Braig, of plant maintenance, and Charles J. Karpinski, of the Race Street pumping station.

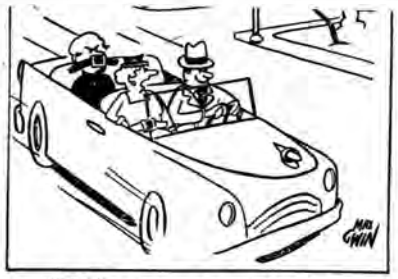
Braig set a half season high of 235 and finished with an average game score of 163. Karpinski holds the highest average game score, 167.

The appeal for more teams is part of the Recreation Association's policy of extending its privileges to as many employees as possible.

Groups of four or five employees from any plant or section may enter the league as a team. Individuals too are welcome. Notwithstanding the skill being developed by league members, the ability to top 100 is not a requirement for participation. Willingness to play, enjoyment of the game, and desire to spend an evening with fellow employees are the most important considerations.

Persons interested in joining the league may come out Friday night, or call Joseph Goldberger, personnel assistant, aut. 2871 or LO 8-5950 ext. 227.

Here is how other members are doing in the league. First half season averages: John Liberatore 147, Russell Thomas 144, Alfred P. Gionta 155, Louis Farabelli 148, and Nicholas Mocharnuk 136, all from the Meter shop; Dewey Crawford 122, Distribution section; Frank S. Paino 139, Northeast sewage treatment works; Harold E. Dando 147, Sewer Maintenance section; John Craney 149 and John Hevener 139, both of Customer Service section; Calvin B. Sasse 155, Delaware pumping division; Lesser Lindenbaum 118, Southwest sewage treatment works; John F. Cashman 143, sewage operations administration; George H. Tucker 123, Southwest sewage treatment works; John G. Pagano 159, Plant Maintenance section; John Sassman 145, general administration.



"Didn't you install mother's safety belt a little high?"

## RECREATION GROUP AIMS FOR 600 MEMBERS GOAL

New members are flocking to the Employees' Recreation Association as the temination for the current membership campaign approaches.

With a goal of 600 members for 1960, the association is redoubling its efforts. Its membership is already well above that of last year.

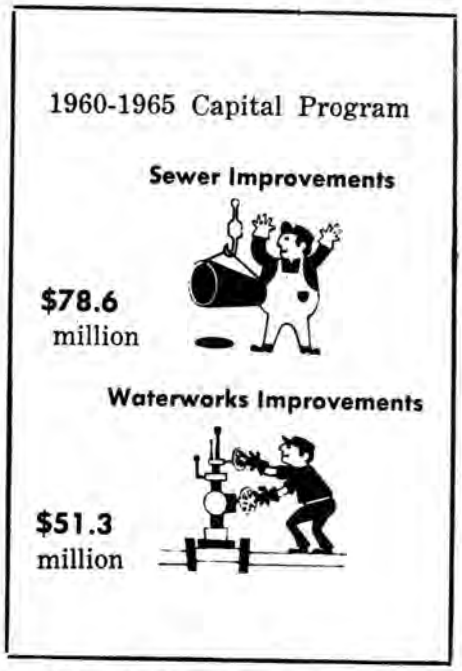
Morris Pirolli reports the sale of 35 additional membership cards to Distribution section employees. Even more recruits are expected.

Strongly attracting new members are the reduced price tickets offered by the association for various special events. Among these events is the "Ben Hur" film at the Boyd theater Wednesday evening, February 24. By courtesy of the association, any Water Department employee (whether or not he is an association member) may purchase $1.80 balcony seats for $1.45 and $2.50 orchestra and loge seats for $2.00 by using the coupon in this issue of the Water Department News.

On January 6, Recreation Association members enjoyed a double-header basketball bill at Convention Hall where the Phila. Warriors beat the St. Louis Hawks and the Cincinnati Royals beat the New York Knicks.

Reduced tickets to this game were arranged by Association Vice President Samuel Gerson, Design division. The association hopes to obtain reduced tickets to another Warriors game on March 3. Announcement will be posed on your bulletin board.

On January 5, approximately 170 Water Department employees, with their families and friends, enjoyed a performance of the Ice Follies at the Arena.




You don't realize how many of your old school chums have become highbrows until they remove their hats.

---

Boss: "What are you putting your hat and coat on for? Where are you going?"

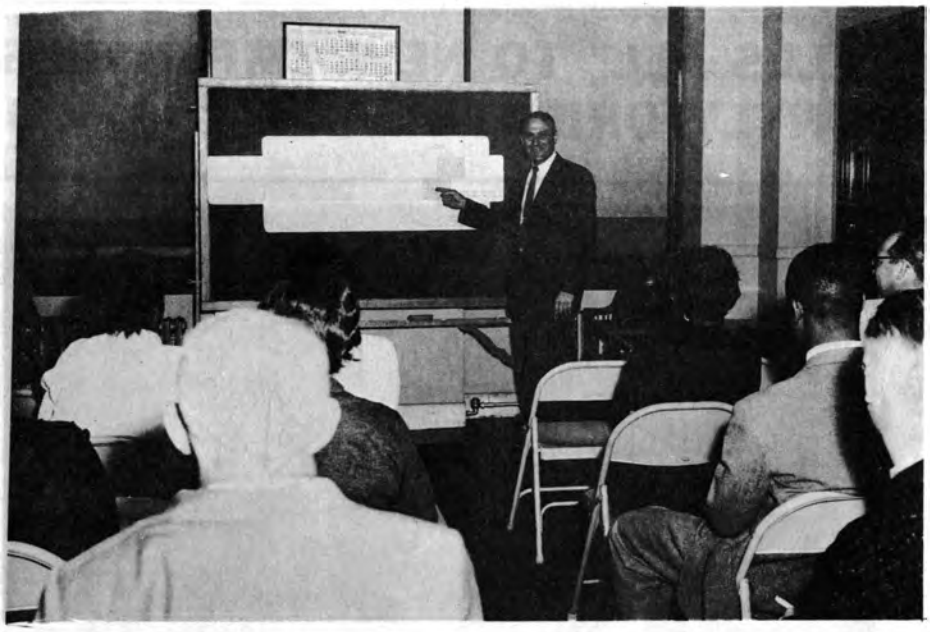
Steno: "Didn't you tell me to take a letter to the Miami Beach Plaza Hotel?"—IMP.

# *Personal Notes*

The Christmas holdays proved very exciting and wonderful for some of our Water Department employees. On Christmas Day David Gower, of the Capital Improvements Unit, became a father for the third time. Mrs. Gower gave birth to a lovely little girl, Karen Hannah, making a wonderful playmate for the two older Gower boys. Congratulations ! ! !

Mary Wolicki, of the Commissioner's Office, was given a beautiful diamond engagement ring on Christmas from her "Bob". All her neighbors had Mary believing she was going to get a cedar chest and she was wondering where she would have room for it—but she was wonderfully surprised and happy. The lucky man's name . . . Robert Schmidt.

Janice James, our new employee with Sewerage Operations, also became engaged on Christmas and it looks like Cupid spent a busy week-end. We wish both girls all best luck and, please, girls, come down to earth again.



**Thomas Mullineaux, accounting officer, starts off cycle billing class for employees of the Water and Collections Departments. For a solid week the "students" studied custumer relations and details of the new billing system. Purpose: To answer queries, and provide prompt service, for the public.**

# CYCLE BILLERS STUDY HOW TO HANDLE PUBLIC

Sixty employees of the Water and Collections Department went to class last month to learn everything possible about the City's new cycle billing system for water and sewer service. Purpose: To prepare for a possible flood of inquiries from water customers about the new system.

In alternating morning and afternoon classes of 30 each, the employees listened to a battery of instructors, discussing topics ranging from the broad features of cycle billing to the best way to handle an irate customer.

By the end of the week the employees were ready for the numerous inquiries expected, whether by telephone, letter or personal visit. Some members of the classes would serve as interviewers; others would operate in the field.

Organized under the general direction of Samuel J. Schwartz, assistant to the Water Commissioner, the classes won enthusiastic approval of the "student."

Thomas E. Mullineaux, chief of utility accounting for the Water Department, discussed the general operation of cycle billing. Procedures were taught by John E. Ryan, assistant chief of the Systems division in the Office of the Finance Director. Customer relations were discussed by Robert H. Coates, director of school extension for the Board of Public Education.

Most customer inquiries under cycle billing will be referred to the newly organized Water Revenue division of the Department of Collections. Some special cases will be handled by the Water Department's Customer Services section.

## MAYBE THE LADY HAD NO SALES RESISTANCE

The City's new water and sewer billing system got off to a flying start last month.

On January 3, the Water Department ran a huge advertisement in the Sunday newspapers to tell its customers all about the system. The next day a pleasant voiced woman called up and said, "I saw your ad, and I think cycle billing is just dandy. How do I apply for it?"

The lady was oversold, but she proved once more the close ties between public relations and "operations". So in reverse did a City employee who replied to another call about the advertisement, "Ad? What ad? This is the City, lady."

Working on the theory that good public relations help operations, the Water Department ran ads in all the daily, and many of the weekly, newspapers. It held training classes to teach 60 employees of the Water and Collections Departments the A-B-C's of cycle billing. It printed, and prepared to distribute through Collections, an explanatory folder with each new bill. It called meetings with representatives of the banks and mortgage companies. It circulated digests of information. It issued news releases. Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter went on the air.


**"It seems, one day, one of the girls opened a file drawer and a mouse jumped out."**

COURTESY WALL STREET JOURNAL

## *Planning*

*The world seems topsy turvy*
*And our thinking is mixed up*
*We try to make things better*
*With no thought of giving up.*

*We are in a scientific age*
*So watch your every step, please*
*Don't use your mind on a vast plan,*
*By using half vast ideas.*

*George Fred Smith,*
*Customer Service Section*

# DEPARTMENT "TELLS ALL" TO NEW EMPLOYEES AS IT STARTS MONTLY ORIENTATION PROGRAM

WELCOME was written in capital letters recently as the department started a monthly orientation class for tnew employees.

Twenty employees gathered in the Commissioner's conference room to be greeted by Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter and to listen to brief talks by five department officials. Questions flew and interest was lively as the two-hour program unfolded. Much of the program included audience participation, as well as showing of color slides.

Intended to give new employees a clearer notion of their working environment, the class will be repeated each month for employees hired during the previous month. The class is under the auspices of the Personnel section.

Ervin L. Davis, personnel officer, said that the program will provide "official and accurate" information to new employees concerning Water Department objectives, personal safety, benefits and obligations, with related policies and practices. "Above all, we want to answer the questions of our new employees," said Mr. Davis.

Participating in the January class were Administrative Services Director B. Barney Palmer, who discussed the department's over all goals, and Safety Engineer John T. Cappio, who explained the safety program.

Mr. Davis, assisted by Miss Regina M. Powers, assistant personnel officer, and Joseph Goldberger, personnel assistant, covered a wide range of topics, including pay, sick leave, pensions, insurance coverage, promotions, performance reports, training opportunities, suggestion awards, holidays and recreation.

**New employees of the Water Department feel very much at home as the department's Personnel section launches a broad orientation program. The program, which will be repeated each month for newcomers, gives employees the chance to ask questions and provides information about pay, fringe benefits, promotions, etc. Above, Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter welcomes employees.**


*"Yes Sir, Young man, I started from scratch."*

## Railroader Harry Myers adds another "Last" as he takes Final trip on Capital Trolley

By ROSEMARY ROSENTHAL

With the Christmas holidays just about forgotten and the children's electric trains put away until next year, we learn that with some of our fellow employees "railroading" is not just a seasonal avocation but a full time, year round hobby. One of the most active of these "railroaders" is Harry Myers of 5005 North Sydenham Street, an engineering aide in the Mechnical and Engineering section of Water Operations.

Harry, who has an H. O. gauge full scale model electric train in a second floor bedroom of his home, has been a member of the National Railroad Historical Society since 1943. Members of the society mainly ride on las trains and trolleys that are discontinued, and these trips usually bring out crowds of people. Harry's last trip was to Pottsville on the Reading Railroad's streamlined "Crusader." His longest trip was one he took alone to British Columbia.

The society has about 100 members from Philadelphia; including two other Water Department employees—James Dillon of Projects Control and George Gimborn. There are 1700 members throughout the world—with North America having 38 chapters.

On January 2, Harry took the last ride of a Washington, D. C., trolley that was discontinued. This was a most picturesque trip winding along the shores of the Potomac and ending up at Cabin John. The service on that day had to be doubled to accommodate all the crowds. Harry has never been on a train that was the cause of an accident but was on one that was hit by an automobile at a grade crossing. Harry finds his hobby to be about the most interesting an engineer could enjoy and hopes to continue it for a long, long time.

A participant in the annual Mummers Parade since he was two years old, Henry Hoochuk sports one of his comic costumes.

## HENRY HOOCHUK WINS 12th MUMMERS PRIZE

For the 26th straigh year, Henry Hoochuk made his march up Broad St. New Year's Day with the Murray Club of the comic division.

Henry, who is a supervisor at the Southwest sewage treatment works, was in good form. After 11 years of winning cash prizes, he added a twelfth year prize by finishing sixth in the competition. For the previous six years, Henry had carried off first prize in the comic division.

With a talent for costume designing, Henry designed and made seven oufits for his club, including the captain's suit. The last won fourth prize, and all his creations were awarded prize money.

"Henry has been hitting the street every New Year's since he was two years old," reports Lesser Lindenbaum, "and while he is a little older now, he has said that not a thing on this earth could keep him off Broad St. on New Year's Day, even if it looked like he wouldn't be able to clear all the man made hurdles this year. But Bill Penn smiled down from City Hall and there was ole Hoochuk leading the Murray Club all the way."

Well, it looks like Henry did some good leading. Congratulations, Henry, from the department.

## IF IT's EXPERIENCE YOU WANT— NEW QUARTER CENTURY MEN HAVE IT

If variety is the spice of life, the Quarter Centery Club is in for a lively year. Eleven new members, with widely varying backgrounds, will be wecomed into the club at a February 11 dinner to be held at D. F. McAllister and Sons, 1811 Spring Garden St.

With 25 years in the City service and a rich outside experience behind them, the new members, collectively, have done a little of everything. It is impossible in this limited space to cover that varied experience, but a few highlights follow.

One of the more rugged members is David T. Anderson, civil engineering aide to the Water Commissioner. There is a reason for Dave's ruggedness. It is athletics. Dve has participated in practically all the sports you could mention. When he started with the old Bureau of Engineering and Surveys (1926), the survey district had a baseball team. Samuel S. Baxter was the pitcher, with Dave catching. A Drexel engineering graduate, Dave was a member of the Bachelor's Barge Club on the Schuylkill for 13 years; he could have tried out for the Olympics in 1940 but for the war. In the armed services for 13 years, Dave was athletic director at the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot. From 1952 to 1956, he was executive secretary of the Board of Building Standards, Department of Licenses and Inspections.

Benjamin Pollock and his cigar are a familiar sight in the Water Department. Ben, who is a clerk in the Administrative Division, started with the department in 1934. With broad experience in local department stores, he was self employed as a window decorator from 1930 to 1934. Ben is strongly enthusiastic about double features. He goes to double feature movies, doubleheader baseball games, and keeps two TV sets going at the same time.

Few City employees keep as busy as Carl W. Frey, chief of customer services. It's Carl's job to keep the public happy by giving them all the service possible, and this means listening to complaints, giving out information, arranging for crews to pump out cellars, etc. Carl, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania where he majored in governmental administration from 1944 to 1952, started with the City in 1930 as a chainman in the Second Survey District.

An experienced radio hand is Harry T. Leeser, engineer at the Queen Lane pumping station. Starting in the City service in 1934, Harry had previously worked for the Atwater Kent Company as a radio tester. He has continued his interest in things mechanical, even to the extent of building his own hi-fi set.

A clerk in the Meter Shop since 1934, Harry J. Andrews is a veteran of the hat manufacturing industry. From 1908 to 1944, he worked for Frank Schoble and Company, men's hat manufacturers.

Constantly on the go in the field is John J. McDevitt, a civil engineer in the Construction division. A registered professional construction engineer, John spent three years in the Seabees during World II. He was formerly employed by United Engineers Construction Co.

A spot welder with the E. G. Budd Company from 1922 to 1929 and a helper on the Reading Railroad from 1929 to 1934, Joseph McStravick is now employed as a laborer in sewer maintenance.

Handling vehicles is a regular thing for Francis O'Shea, an equipment operator in sewer maintenance. Before joining the City service, he was self employed

John J. Tobin, a foreman in water distribution, entered the old Water Bureau in 1934. For many years previously, he was employed by various private firms-the American Stores 1918-24, the Bayak Cigar Company 1924-26, the Warner Company 1926-33.

Philip F. Jacobs and Daniel Travaglio complete the list of eleven. Phil, an engineering aide in the Drainage Information section, entered the Sewer division as a draftsman in 1929. Dan is a laborer in the Distribution division. He worked for George E. Spence, plumbers, from 1944 to 1946.

## SEVEN EMPLOYEES RETIRE AFTER EXTENDED SERVICE

Retirement has come to seven department employees, comprising a variety of occupations. The department offers its good wishes to all the fine employes listed below.

George Cornegay, 3015 West Colona St., an operator at the Belmont raw water pumping station, joined the City service January 16, 1946. Seventy years of age, he formerly worked for the Pennsylvania Transfer Company and Philadelphia Naval Base.

Henry Patillo, 65, of 5534 Girard Ave., is a repairman at the Meter shop. Entering the City service on June 22, 1930, he has held a variety of positions.

Jake Smith, 69, of 3813 Cambria St., has been in sewer maintenance since 1935. A laborer for the City, he formerly worked for the Midvale Steel Works and a local sugar refinery.

Jesse Fields, 55, of 5224 Irving St., became a City employee on November 27, 1936. A plant helper at the Queen Lane raw water pumping station, he once worked for the Atlantic Refining Company and the Philadelphia Gas Company.

John A. Hanlon, 4264 Griscom St., is an operator at the Torresdale filtered water pumping station. Sixty-nine years of age, he joined the City service on June 7, 1944. Before then he worked for the Lincoln Hosiery and John R. Foy.

Charles McClure, 69, of 8040 Frankford Ave., has been working as a carpenter at the Torresdale water treatment plant. Formerly an employee of the Atlas Metal and Stamping Company, he has been with the City since December 19, 1949.

Vitantonio Pentasuglio, 76, of 4145 Paul St., has retired as a laborer at the Torresdale water treatment plant. Once an employee of Keystone Emry, he became a City employee July 27, 1944.

---

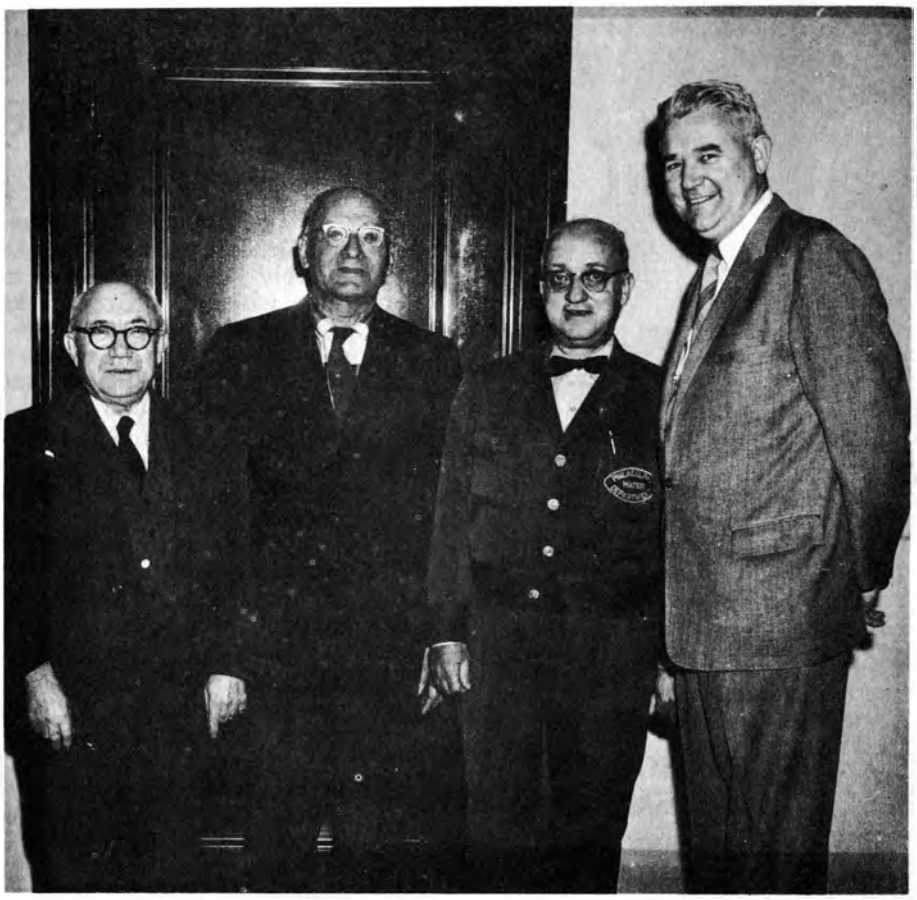
"The boss is mean," the man told his wife, "but he's fair."

"What do you mean by that?" she asked.

"Well, he's mean to everybody."

* * *

To err is human and with a blond it's divine.



**Gold watches were presented to retiring veterans, Joseph Falotico, Louis Sacchetti, and David Medway by Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter. Watches were gifts of fellow workers in Customer Services section. L. to r., Sacchetti, Medway, Falotico, Baxter.**

## CUSTOMER SERVICE VETERANS RECEIVE GOLD WATCHES FROM FELLOW WORKERS

Three retiring employes of the Customer Service section received gold watches from fellow workers at a brief ceremony in the Commissioner's conference room.

Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter made the presentation to Joseph Falotico, Louis Sacchetti, and David Medway. Mr. Baxter expressed the department's best wishes to the retiring veterans.

Of the three, Joseph Falotico, who lives at 845 Watkins St., has the longest City service—35 years. He worked in the Bureau of Highways, the Recorder of Deeds Office, and the Office of the Receiver of Taxes until March 5, 1940, when he joined the old Water Bureau. A field representative for the department, Mr. Falotico is 60 years old.

Louis Sacchetti entered City service on April 1, 1942 as a clerk in the Water Bureau. Starting in the Distribution division, he later transferred to the Registrar's office and the Service section. Mr. Sacchetti, who lives at 1709 Benson St., worked in recent years as a clerk.

The City career of David Medway, 1755 N. 53rd St., began in 1938 as a temporary recreation employee. He received a permanent appointment on May 13, 1942 as a field inspector in the Water Bureau. For a brief time he was engaged in licenses and inspections work, returning to the Department in 1952.

Both Mr. Sacchetti and Mr. Medway are 70 years old. They plan to live the "life of a retired gentleman."

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. MARCH, 1960

CORNELIUS J. O'KANE

## WATER DEPARTMENT GETS FIRST TRAINING OFFICER

Cornelius J. O'Kane has been appointed as the Water Department's first full time training officer.

Mr. O'Kane, who transferred from the Police Department, will be responsible for setting up and administering a variety of training programs for the 1,630 Water Department employees.

A graduate of St. Joseph's College, where he received his bachelor of science degree in psychology, he entered City service in July, 1957. Assigned initially to the City Personnel Department, he later became a personnel technician in the Police Department, with responsibility for preparing and administering examinations, interviewing, doing job analyses, assigning employees, administering sick leave, and performing other personnel duties.

Before joining the City, Mr. O'Kane served nearly four years with the Curtis Publishing Company (1947-51), and then spent two years with the U. S. Army as a personnel specialist.

Thirty years old, he is married and has two children. He lives at 1824 West Rockland St.

# EMPLOYEES NAME ERV DAVIS NEW RECREATION PRESIDENT

## ARNOLD TO HEAD GROUP ON STREAM TEMPERATURE

Deputy Water Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold has been named by State Health Secretary Charles L. Wilbar as chairman of a special advisory committee on the control of stream temperatures in Penna.

The committee, consisting of representatives of government, business, industry and recreational groups, will work with Pennsylvania Health Department engineers on temperature standards to be adopted by the Sanitary Water Board, which oversees Pennsylvania's rivers.

Higher temperatures have become noticeable in the Lehigh, Monongahela and Mahoning Rivers among others, the State Health Department has reported. Certain industrial activities, such as power generating plants, refineries, steel mills, paper mills and tanneries, are believed to raise stream temperatures.

Among questions the committee will study are: What are "normal" and "detrimental" stream temperatures? What can be done to reduce temperatures?

Arnold, who manages water operations for the Water Department, formerly headed the City of San Diego Water Department and the Water Resources Division of the National Production Authority. He is a civil engineering graduate of Colorado State University.


"Did you hear what Old Man Johnson suggested?"

Ervin L. Davis, personnel officer, has been elected first president of the newly reorganized Employees' Recreation Association.

The choice of Davis was made by the outgoing board of directors under terms of the association's new constitution.

Kenneth J. Zitomer, Construction Division, was named vice president; John J. Irwin, Accounting Section, treasurer; and Florence E. Graham, Personnel Office, secretary. Nomination of the officers, as well as a new board of directors, was made by a panel consisting of John McCarthy (sewage operations), Joseph Goldberger (personnel) and George Helmar (Belmont), and then ratified by the old board.

Members at large were permitted to submit additional nominations subject to certain requirements.

Panel nominees for the new board of directors include Irwin, McCarthy and Zitomer, together with: Azad Attarian, water operations; Robert Runkle, Logan garage; John Craney, customer service; James Marinan, building maintenance; Russell Thomas, Meter shop; George Helmar; Edward Barrett, Queen Lane; John Pierce, Torresdale; Reuben Pearl, Roxborough; Morris Pirolli, distribution; Peter Crescitelli, Schuylkill; Joseph Gavitt, Delaware; Ben Morris, Race Street and Fairhill pumping; Joseph Cannon, testing lab; John Mirkil, design; Edward Milburn, Northeast sewage; Henry Hoochuk, Southwest sewage; Francis Papaleo, Southeast sewage; Nicholas Menna, sewer maintenance.

Ex-officio members of the new board are Samuel J. Schwartz, Commissioner's Office; Robert Willard, Water Bureau local 394; and Ervin L. Davis.

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| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo |
| | Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | James Marinan |
| Pumping— | Vacant |
| Delaware Division | Shirley Henry |
| Southeast Works | Robert Jones |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Universal Metering | Virginia Kotyk |
| Water Main Records | Edward Migliaccio |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Joseph Watson |


## RETIREMENT COMES TO FOUR EMPLOYEES

Four employees recently retired from City service.

Heading the group was John Boggi, 1748 South Edgewood St., who was with the department for 28 years. John, age 64, became known at various department installations as the man who kept the mails running. An automotive driver, stationed at the Logan Garage, he was self-employed before entering City service.

A veteran of 17 years with the department, Arthur Beard, 1837 East Tioga St., has also left. Mr. Beard, who is 76, was formerly employed by Selective Service and the Pennsylvania State Banking Department. While with the City, he was a public works inspector in the Construction Division.

Two other retirements involve employees with shorter periods of Water Department service. Francesco Gallo, 762 South Warneck St., was with the department for eight years. Aged 64, he worked as a trades helper (machinist) in the Plant Maintenance Section. Kenneth L. Payne, 3018 North Bonsall St., served at the Belmont Pumping Station. He is 57 and completed seven years in water service.

The department wishes these employees a long and pleasant retirement.

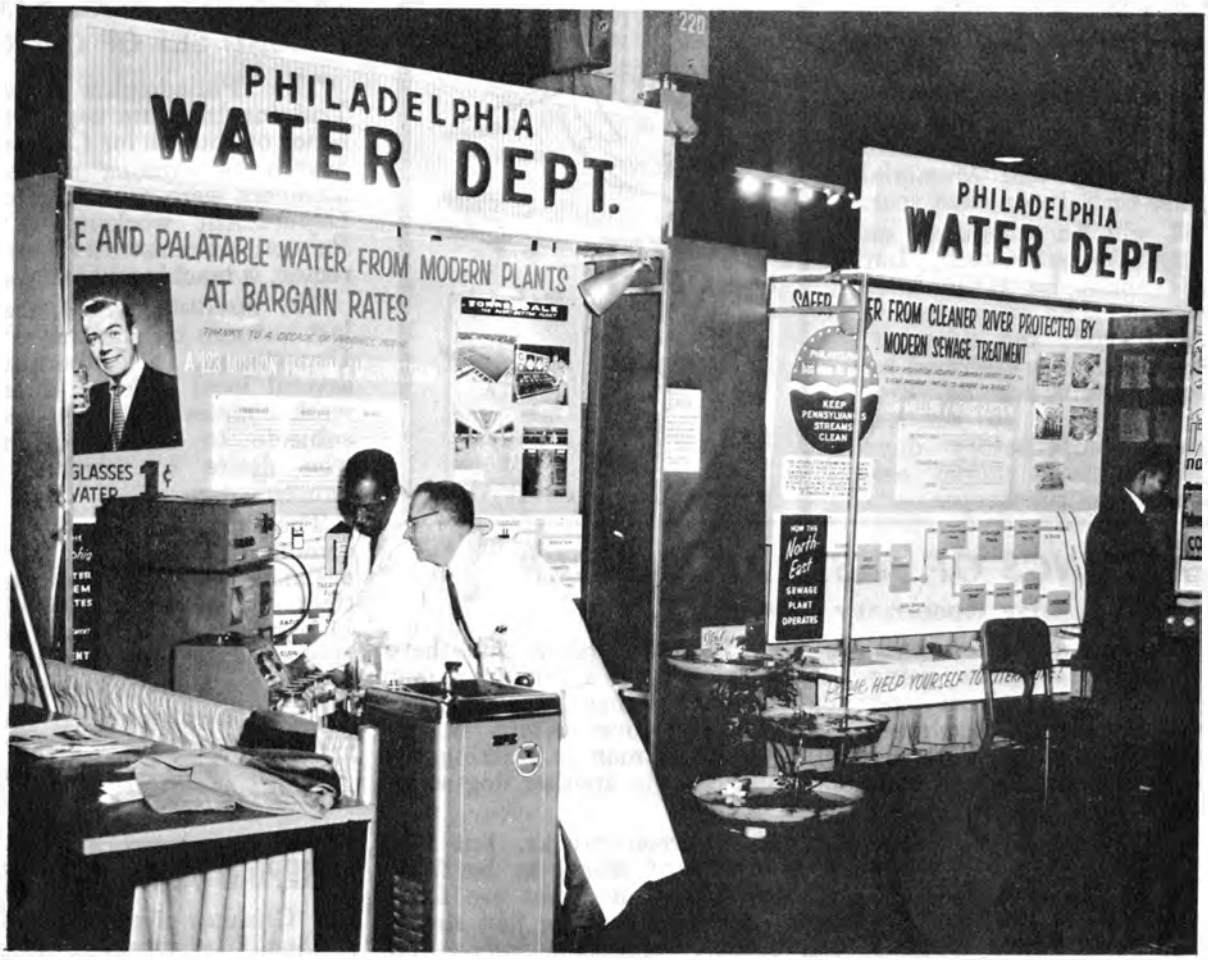
# HELP WANTED


***Fine Positions***
***For Players, Coaches***
***Equipment Managers***

***For Fun on the Run***

***Join the Philadelphia Water Department Champion Softball Team***

**Apply: Joe Goldberger, business agent**
**Room 1225 Annex, LO 8-5950 ext. 227**
**or Automatic 2871**




## BEGINNING OF A DAY AT THE HOME SHOW

**The Water Department's representatives get ready for the crowds which thronged the department's booths throughout Home Show Week at Exhibition Hall. Visitors admired the panels, eyed algae through a microscope, sought explanations of equipment, asked about cycle billings, and helped themselves to several thousand pieces of literature. The water cooler (offering free drinks) did a landslide business. Panel displays can now be seen on 11th and 12th floors of Annex.**

## CHESS TEAM SIGNS UP NEW PLAYERS AS IT ENTERS CITY WIDE TOURNAMENT

Three new players have joined the department's chess team, which is now engaged in a city-wide championship contest.

The team, which is composed mostly of Design Division engineers, met the Ukrainian-American Club on March 2 in a hard fought battle.

New members of the team are C. J. O'Kane, the department's new training officer; A. H. Raigule and Mahlon Erp, Construction Division.

Team members continue to have warm-up sessions during the lunch hour. Gus Van Nyanatten continues to rank as official "champ" with five victories and no losses in these sessions. Al Stackhouse is a close second with six victories and one loss. John Mirkil has eight victories and three defeats. Obviously the difference in standing among the experts is more technical than real.

Other players, with wins and losses, follows: Jack Mooney, five and three; Tom Smith, two and two; Sam Gerson, one and one; Stanley Carroll, one and three. George Bey, Joe Mair, Myron Reiner, Moe DeLuzio and Emily Clark have also been active.

Persons interested in playing chess either with or "agin" the team should contact John Mirkil, Design Division.

## DEPARTMENT INDUCTS FIVE NEW EMPLOYEES

Five new employees entered the Water Department recently. The department extends a warm handshake to—

Robert H. Myers, Jr., 6111 Locust St., field inspector I in the Customer Service Section.

Ernest Dillihay, 606 North 34th St., security officer I, Distribution Division.

Alexander Dukes, 243 North Stanley St., laborer, Building Maintenance Section.

Leon A. Wilson, 1225 South 49th St., laborer, Distribution Division.

Rita Ruggeri, 306 Delancey St., bookkeeping machine operator, Administrative Division.

## COMPENSATORY TIME

Employees who earned a compensatory day off in 1959 because a holiday fell on Saturday may still take the day in 1960, Personnel Officer Ervin L. Davis notes. Both Independence Day and Memorial Day occurred on Saturday last year.

Time off will be scheduled, on request, by the supervisor, but such time cannot be taken later than this year. The supervisor is required to permit the time off. This policy has been established by Civil Service Regulation 34. Employees in doubt as to whether they earned compensatory days because of holidays should ask their supervisor or timekeeper.


## TRAINING SCHOOL STARTS SECOND SET OF COURSES

The Philadelphia Government Training Institute began its second series of courses for City employees March 14. Among the new class members were a number of Water Department workers. B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director, is teaching one of the classes.

The institute, which was started last autumn by the City Personnel Department in cooperation with several local colleges, offers eight-week courses in highly specialized subjects to municipal employees who desire to prepare for advancement.

The courses cover effective office communication, City government organization, City personnel practices, and successful supervision . . . in a word, subjects not ordinarily offered by academic institutions but invaluable to municipal employees.

Class members pay their own tuition at the rate of $6 per course. The classes meet one evening a week from 7:00 to 9:00 o'clock.

## *MUSINGS OF A STRAP HANGER*

**By Rosemary Rosenthal**

Leaving the bus at its terminus, you get onto the escalator going up to the "EL" platform and manage a quick glance at a store clock—just 8:00 A.M., you should be in on time today—but, with the elevated trains breaking down or being tied up at least once a week, you make a dash for the incoming train and get into the nearest car—it's no matter what car you get on—there are no seats to be had anyhow and you are lucky if you can manage to find a strap to hang onto. It's not easy to read standing up and being jostled by all the people, so you gaze out of the windows at the "sights."

First you pass the large bank on the corner; there is the guard peeping out of a slot in the door to see if the person at the door is an employee and if he can let him in. Ah, there in that window, stands a little girl and she is talking to her parakeet and waving "Good morning" to it.

Further down, a man in his undershirt is standing and shaving and looking up at the sky to see what the weather is going to be like. Over there in that apartment, is a lady, still with the hair curlers in her hair, putting a pot of coffee on the stove. Well, over the railroad tracks we now go and Wow—there goes a crack stream-lined train and even on the train you can see some of the passengers having their breakfasts—the train looks so comfortable and inviting. You try to imagine where the train could be headed for and wish that if it is going to Florida—that you could be on it too.

Well, back to reality, and there in the back yard a woman in her bathrobe is hanging out her clothes to dry—and over there in an empty lot a man is walking his dog and chasing another dog away from his pet.

More railroad tracks, but this time the yard seems to be filled with freight trains that are filled with coal, steel rods, or just standing empty. Around a curve and now we seem to be surrounded by factories and the employees are all busily at work already.

All of a sudden the train seems to get brighter—you look up and there is the sun shining down on the Delaware River and making it look like a vast shimmering mirror. And the boats—some tied up at the docks but already teeming with activity—and others going up and down the river, coming and going from all parts of the world. A shadow passes overhead and you realize you are going under the Benjamin Franklin Bridge. There is lots of traffic on the bridge at this time and the bridge stands so proud and majestic, seemingly aware of its strength and beauty. A very, very far cry from the time the bridge first opened and the RCA Victor Company played recordings all day for the pleasure of the motorists and pedestrians.

Don't close your eyes for even a second now because if you do, you will miss historic Elfreth's Alley. Squeezed between two large factory buildings, it is regarded as the oldest street in the United States consisting of its original residences and still occupied. In fact, one of Mayor Dilworth's married daughters lives on this street. Well, down we go now and finally we get a seat—but just a few more stops and we get off—so why bother to sit down now—we collect our thoughts and ah, here is 13th Street and off we go for the start of another day.

## REPORT ADDRESS CHANGES

Changes of name or address should be reported promptly to supervisors, according to Ervin L. Davis, personnel officer. Such report must be made within 24 hours to comply with departmental regulation.

Supervisors or timekeepers will provide the necessary forms for forwarding the report to the personnel office. These include three copies of the "Change of Address or Name" form and one copy of the "Employee's Withholding Exemption" certificate. Supervisors are required to forward these forms within 48 hours.

Failure of the employee to report his change of name or address may result in one day's suspension.

# THE TOUCH OF THE ARTIST

**Mario Celoni knows that these little touches are what win contests as he prepares to photograph Miss Joan Rememter. Mario, a Design engineer, has designs only on the first prize in the Amateur Photography Contest sponsored by the Employees' Recreation Association. The contest is open to all "amateurs", but probably few will be lucky enough to find a subject as photogenic as Mario's choice. Picture entries must be in the hands of John H. Mirkil, Design Division, 10th floor, Penn Sq. Bldg., by April 1. Oh, yes (all you curious males) Joan is Deputy Commissioner Barofsky's secretary.**


## PERSONNEL AGENCY LISTS 100 TYPES OF OPENINGS

For the person eager to get ahead in the City service the Personnel Department is currently offering more than 100 different types of positions. These include almost every type of professional, skilled and semi-skilled category.

Among the positions located in the Water Department are the following, all of them under civil service:

Accountant II, $4882-$6131; bookkeeping machine operator, $3094-$3886; chemist I, $4258-$5358; civil engineer II, $6417-$8061; clerk stenographer I, $3238-$3548; and II, $3712-$4068; graduate engineer, $5348 - $6131; junior accountant, $4068-$5109; laboratory technician (bacteriology), $3548-$4456; tabulating equipment operator I, $3238-$4068, and II, $3712-$4664.

Applications should be filed at the Personnel Department's recruitment office, room 127, City Hall.

### TYPING OPPORTUNITY

Arthur E. Bartlett, chemist in the Water Department's materials testing laboratory, is preparing a manuscript for a book on chemical analysis. The manuscript has been tape recorded. Mr. Bartlett desires to hire a typist to transcribe the tape. He offers a rate of $1.25 an hour. If interested in such work during off-duty hours, please call Mr. Bartlett, automatic 479.

# Personal Notes

### *Design*

Abe Finkelstein, chief of the Design Division, met ex-chief Alexander Maltman, at the contractor's banquet. Alex was telling Abe about his vacationing experience in England. Mr. Finkelstein had difficulty in getting the full jest of Mr. Maltman's stories. This was undoubtedly due to the noise made by the banqueters. However, listening to the story, we believe it was due more to the Cockney accent which Mr. Maltman acquired during his short stay in London.

Alex Tatarskyj came into the office happy as a lark; he was giving out candy, and cigars and asked everybody to congratulate him. What was the occasion? You see, his dog Gigi gave birth to the cutest four little pups you ever laid your eyes on.

### *Queen Lane Treatment*

Due to renovations and remodeling of the new filter and administration building. Mr. Bean, Mr. Waters, Mr. Thompson, Miss Featherstone and Mrs. Volpack now have offices at 29th Street Distribution Headquarters.

Walter Zeldman, formerly at Queen Lane Laboratory, is now stationed at Torresdale Laboratory.

Charlie, the cat, the pet of the plant, is no longer with us. He was struck by a car on January 19. The likes of us miss the likes of him.

Mr. William Thompson has returned from a Florida vacation. Bill's wife is golden tan but Bill is "Just Plain Bill."

### *Meter Shop*

John Ford wishes to thank his friends for being so thoughtful during his illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Russ Thomas announce the birth of a son, Russ Thomas, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Lew Ferro celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary by taking a trip to New York, and buying a new home for $15,000. Meter Shop boys, wish them all the luck in the world.

Mr. and Mrs. John Loftus are on vacation in Miami Beach, Florida.

### *Construction*

Here's to an early return from a long period in the Presbyterian Hospital for Division Engineer Maurice T. Connell. We hear he is now recovering at a rapid rate and wish him the best of luck. He has put up a wonderful fight and is now winning the battle.

We hear Arthur Beard is going to retire. Good luck, Arthur, and we are sorry to see you go.

Sincere sympathy is extended to John Monaghan on the death of his wife last month.

Here's to an early recovery from sickness for Thomas Conlan and William Hawley.

Frank Seravalli has been hospitalized in the Nazareth Hospital. The Construction Division wishes him a return to good health and a speedy recovery.

### *Administration*

We had just finished offering congratulations to Hazel Griffin of the Payroll Division on the graduation of her daughter, Mary Louise, from the West Philadelphia High School when she breathtakingly announced that her daughter was to be married February 20 to her Air Force boy-friend. This has been a long romance and we hope they have a long life together. Hazel looks too young to be a mother-in-law.

Harold H. France, civil engineer of the water main records and information division, Water Operations, entered Lankenau Hospital on February 4, 1960 for an operation. Mr. France is treasurer of the American Public Works Association and also a member of our own Twenty-five Year Club. We all miss Mr. France and sincerely hope that he has a speedy recovery.

Gladys Constantine of the accounting unit was recently hospitalized at the Physicians and Surgeons Hospital for a dental operation due to a childhood accident. Take it easy now, Gladys, we need some "petty cash."

## CITY DRIVERS MUST REPORT ON LICENSES

Department employees who regularly operate City vehicles are required to report any suspension or revocation of operator's license to which they may be subjected by the State, it was noted today by John T. Cappio, safety engineer.

Report of such suspension or revocation must be made immediately to the employee's supervisor, even if the State action resulted from an incident involving the employee's own automobile rather than a City car.

Failure to report a suspension or revocation will be cause for disciplinary action and may result in dismissal.

Mr. Cappio pointed out the importance of driving carefully, because loss of an operator's license could easily affect the employee's ability to earn his living as a City driver.

The requirement to report does not apply to Water Department employees who do not regularly operate City vehicles.

Mr. Cappio reminds employees that Governor Lawrence's new highway safety program went into effect March 1. This program sets up a dual system of penalties for wayward drivers. A Class "A" point system prescribes license suspensions of one to three months for exceeding the 50-mile an hour speed limit and a 15-day suspension for the first reckless driving violation. Other moving violations carry tougher penalties than in the past. For lesser violations a Class "B" point system is set up.

A second phase of the State program, embracing physical examinations, is still to come.

### *PROMOTIONS*

Walter N. Thomas, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant, from electrician foreman, class I to class II.

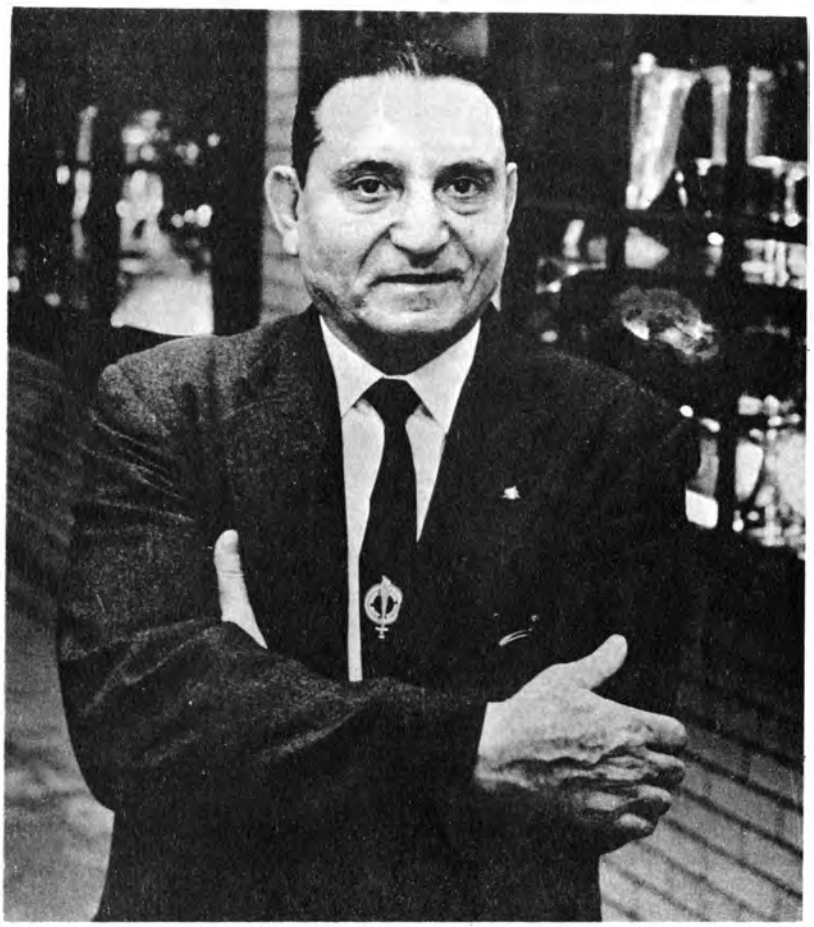
Robert Underwood, Logan Garage, from trades helper to automotive serviceman.

Edward Mittura, Construction Division, from public works inspector, class I to class II.

Congratulations to all.

## NEW HONORS FOR SAM GERSON

**Reprint from Feb. 29 issue of "Sports Illustrated" Magazine**



**SAMUEL NORTON GERSON**

# *'To maintain Olympic ideals'*

In the modern Olympics era some 4,000 Americans have competed in the Games, then picked up their laurels and scattered to homes all over the U.S. Samuel Norton Gerson has long made it his spare-time job to locate them and enroll them in an Olympics alumni organization known as the U.S. Olympians. Gerson's purpose is something more than a nostalgic one: he believes Olympics alumni (the world holds 32,000 of them) have an important part to play in supporting the Olympic Games and maintaining "Olympic ideals in sport."

A Philadelphia engineer, Gerson won wrestling letters at Penn, was a silver medalist (featherweight class) in the 1920 Games at Antwerp. A dozen years ago, "driven by curiosity and the desire to ascertain the whereabouts of my teammates," he began poring over incomplete lists and directories. That led ultimately to the organization of the Olympians, of which Gerson is founder-historian. So far, 1,800 U.S. Olympics alumni have been located and enrolled, and the search goes on for the others. Next Olympian objective: to pass the torch of the alumni idea to Olympic athletes in the rest of the world.

# RADZIUL AND MCPHERSON WIN AWWA AWARD FOR BEST PAPER

Henry Patillo is surrounded by fellow workers of 30 years as he receives a retirement gift at the Meter Shop. Gold watch is presented on behalf of employees by B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director. Much of Henry's long service was spent in the assembly and repair of small water meters.

One present and one former City employee have been named by the American Water Works Association as authors of the "best paper published" in 1959 on the design distribution facilities.

The paper, published in the April, 1959 issue of the AWWA Journal, was written by Joseph V. Radziul, distribution design engineer, and Prof. Murray B. McPherson, University of Illinois, who served for a time as consultant to the Water Department.

Entitled "Distribution Design Considerations", the paper is mainly concerned with balanced pumping, pipeline, and storage characteristics of a good water distribution system. Data and computations for the study were taken from Philadelphia's Belmont high service district.

The AWWA's Distribution Division, which recommended the award, noted that the paper "provides a stimulating discussion of the new concept in design made possible by new design tools and techniques. This contribution emphasizes the value of a modern approach to the solution of old problems."

The award in the form of an attractive certificate will be presented to Radziul and McPherson at the May 22 convention of the AWWA at Bal Harbor, Florida.

In addition to being the Water Department's distribution design engineer, Joe Radziul is research and development engineer. In the latter capacity formerly filled by Prof. McPherson, Joe is responsible for far reaching studies relating to the present and future use of the Delaware River. A graduate of Drexel Institute of Technology, he has a degree in civil engineering as well as diplomas in structural and municipal public works phases of engineering. Married with a small daughter, he lives at 6152 Columbia Avenue.

McPherson was with the Water Department for two years. Previously he taught at Lehigh University. He is a civil engineering graduate of Bucknell University and studied hydraulics at Iowa State and Columbia Universities. He now teaches hydraulic engineering at the University of Illinois.

## WATER DEPARTMENT KEEPS ITS CUSTOMERS INTERESTED AS IT WELCOMES VISITORS AND GIVES OUT BOOKLETS

Public interest in the doings of the Water Department remains at a high level.

Here are a few statistics.

More than 10,000 visitors went through the new Torresdale Water Treatment Plant between its opening last September 29 and the end of 1959. Since then visitors have averaged 200 weekly.

Articles on the Torresdale plant have appeared in numerous national professional magazines.

Nearly 10,000 booklets on the new Torresdale plant have been snatched up by the public since the opening. Approximately 12,000 booklets telling "The Story of Philadelphia's Water" have been given away. Many thousands of copies of an illustrated booklet on water supply, published by the American Water Works Association, have been made available by the Water Department to persons eager to know more about water systems.

Literally thousands of visitors to the Home Show at Exhibition Hall saw the Water Department's attractive panel and equipment display. No small part of them stopped to admire and ask questions.

Tens of thousands of stuffers explaining cycle billing are going out with water and sewer bills to anticipate questions of water customers.

All of this, of course, is only a start. We have not finished telling the story of our department . . . a department of which we are proud. There will be much more to come.

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. MAY, 1960


## NOW FOR THAT HOLIDAY IN SUNNY PUERTO RICO

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

# WATER TO LOSE 44 EMPLOYEES UNDER MANDATORY RETIREMENT

**RICHARD de CHARMS**
Retiring Construction Chief

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Howland Has 16 Years

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

*(Continued on page 9)*

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Published Monthly By**
**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Commissioner** | Samuel S. Baxter |
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| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo |
| | Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
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| Torresdale Plant | Joseph Watson |


## OFFER BARGAIN TICKETS FOR "CAN-CAN" SHOWING

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

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

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

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

# Promotions

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

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

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

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

## SOFTBALL GAMES MOUNT AS SEASON OPENS

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

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

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

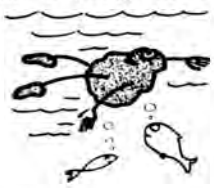
# *This is a Clean Story*

Hi! I'm Herman.

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

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

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



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

Now came the hard part. They had tile on the bottom with tiny little holes. I didn't get through. I knew in two or three days they'd clean the filters, so I waited. After they cleaned it out, they took the dirt (what was left) outside and threw it away. But I'm no ordinary hunk of dirt, I wanted to know what they did to the water after we were gone. I sneaked back to the window sill and peeked in. After I was gone, the water was put in the clear well, chlorine and fluoride were put in.

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

*—By Miss Barbara Sommerville*
*Age 13, Camp Hill School*

**Reprinted by permission from "Clean Streams," published by Pennsylvania Sanitary Water Board.**

# PLAN OPEN HOUSE FOR PUBLIC DURING CITY EMPLOYEES WEEK

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The tentative schedule follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

## FROM OUR MAILBAG

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

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

U. S. Naval Base

Letter from another admirer:

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

(signed) Flash the great"

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

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

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

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

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

## THOMA, EYLER, McKEOWN LEAVE ON CITY PENSION

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

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

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

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

James McKeown, an operator at the Schuylkill Division pumping station, has gone on disability pension. Sixty-eight years old, Mr. McKeown, who lives at 155 Fountain St., has been with the department since 1945.

# APPOINT BASTIAN NEW SEWAGE CHIEF

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

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

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

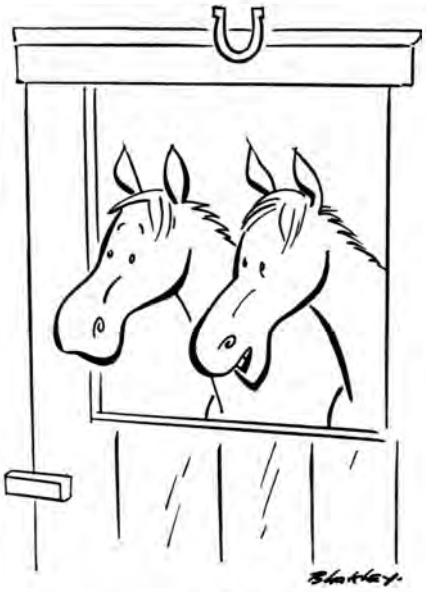
Mr. Bastian, 42, has been an associate of Buck, Seifert and Jost, a firm of New York consulting engineers, since 1956. While with the firm, he made numerous reports and investigations on sanitary, sewage collection and water supply problems for municipalities and public authorities on the East Coast.

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

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

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

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



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

# *Personal Notes*

*Administration*

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

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

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

*Customer Service Section*

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

## EXTEND PHOTO CONTEST

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

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

*Construction*

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

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

*Delaware Division Pumps*

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

*Sewer Maintenance*

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

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

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

*Meter Shop*

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

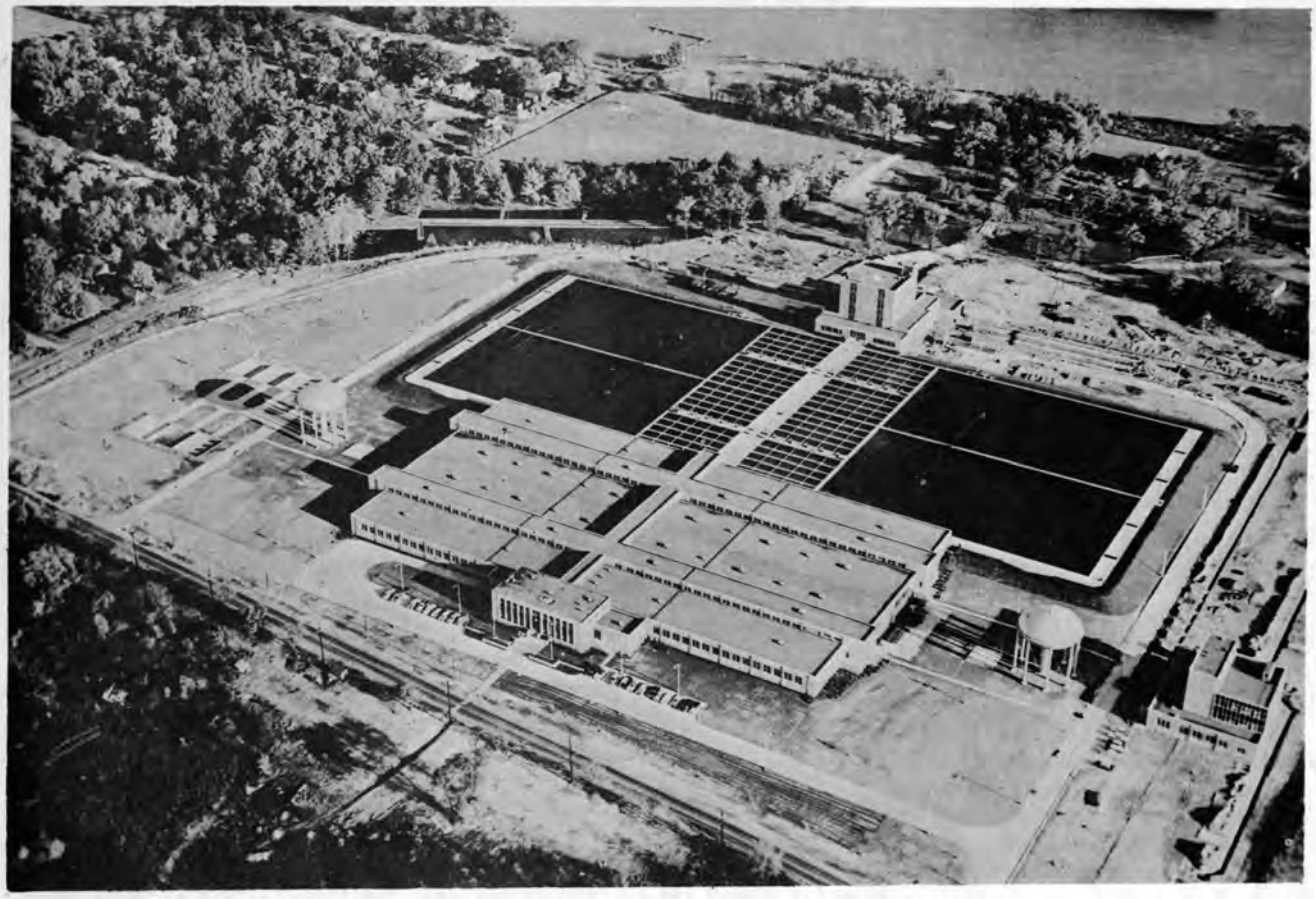
Mike Pacillio has been hospitalized in the Roxborough Memorial Hospital. The Meter Shop wishes him a fast recovery.

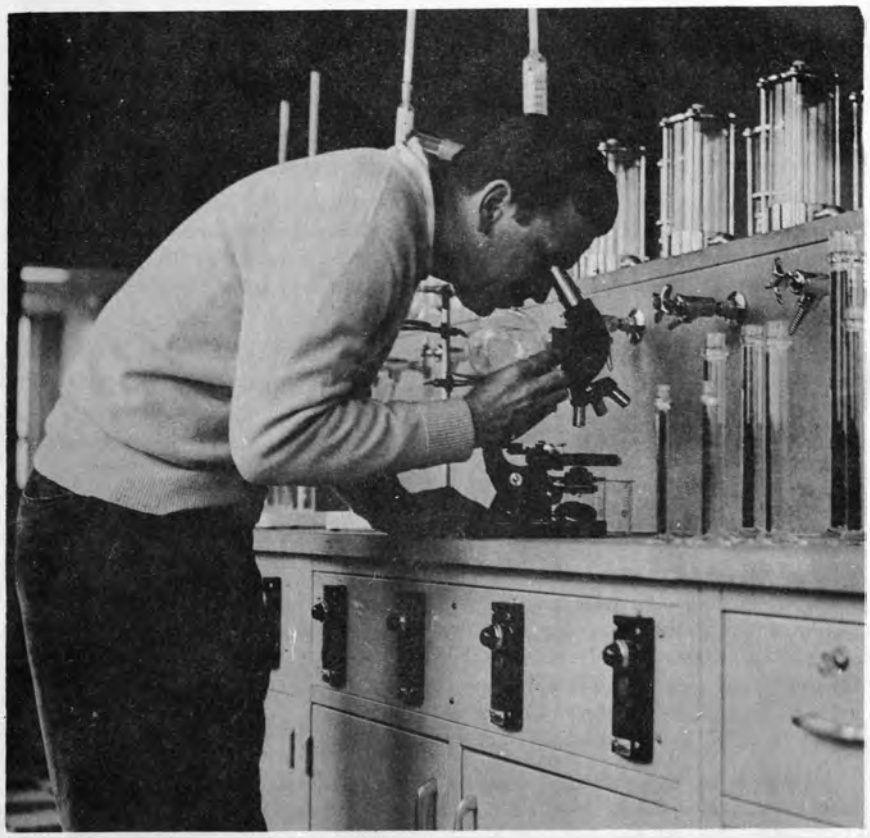
Here's to an early recovery from sickness for Joseph Fine.

*Designing*

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

Senor Gibson attended the bull fights in Mexico City.





# TORRESDALE

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

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

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

# NEWS LETTER

Published By Office
of the City Representative

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

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

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

* * * * *

Short Shorts—Registration starts May 2 for November elections.

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

## *A NOTE OF THANKS*

From Abe Finkelstein
Chief of Design Section

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### TIME OFF FOR TESTS

Employees will be excused from work to take City Civil Service tests, it has been announced by the Water Department Personnel Office.

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

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

## *Thank You*

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

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

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

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

# ONE HUNDRED FELLOW EMPLOYEES HONOR CONSTRUCTIONS ENGINEERS AT LUNCHEON

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*(Continued on page 8)*

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

The department extends a warm welcome to these new employees.

### Construction Engineers

*(Continued from page 7)*

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

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

## CORRECTIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# WATER TO LOSE 44 EMPLOYEES JULY 1

*(Continued from page 1)*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### William Hawley—35 Years

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Harold France Retires

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Wright, Sewer Crawler

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

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

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

**HAROLD FRANCE**
Retiring Water Main Information Chief

**CHARLES HOWLAND**
Capital Budget Expert . . . leaving

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

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

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

MRS. MINNA ZELLNER

## WOMAN DESIGN AIDE TO END FULL CAREER

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

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

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

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

Merited words indeed for a gracious lady.

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

## DO YOU HAVE MONEY WORRIES ?

*Read this and worry no more*


***Included with this issue is an "Employee Suggestion" form. Just fill it in with one good idea.***

**WIN**

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

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

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


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

Courtesy, Robert Kennedy, Fire Dept.

# EMPLOYEE SUGGESTION

CITY OF Philadelphia

## INSTRUCTIONS TO SUGGESTER

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

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

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

*Date* _____ *Signature of Suggester* _____

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

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

**6. I SUGGEST:**

73-S-129

*(continued on reverse side)*

*(Describe what goes on now that you suggest improving by – a change – new technique/invention)*

**7. PRESENT PRACTICE IS:**

**8. I BELIEVE MY SUGGESTION WILL:**

☐ Save Time ☐ Save Material ☐ Save Space ☐ Improve Methods ☐ Improve Safety ☐ Simplify Work ☐ Save Money ☐ Other *(Specify)*

*(Describe how suggestion will result in savings to the City; specify benefits expected in improved safety, health, welfare, or morale, etc.; who will benefit)*

**9. MY SUGGESTION WILL ACCOMPLISH:**

## RESULTS OF A GOOD SUGGESTION

**YOU** share in the management of your own organization unit.

**YOU** help eliminate waste, unnecessary duplication; reduce cost or time of an operation; simplify forms or reports; improve procedures or methods of operation; conserve tools; increase production; improve equipment; improve handling of materials; improve housekeeping; improve industrial or public relations; improve safety; improve employee morale.

## YOUR SUGGESTION PAY-OFF

**YOU** receive official recognition of your valuable ideas for improving operations – and – a cash award from $10 to $100 for each adopted suggestion – PLUS – an additional amount up to $250 if one of your suggestions is rated by the Awards Board among the two outstanding suggestions of the year.

***YOU know YOUR job – YOU know YOUR City operations – START SUGGESTING ways to improve them.***

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. JUNE, 1960


## GRAND TOUR OF EUROPE CALLS EIGHTY RECREATION MEMBERS

Two weeks in the most storied parts of Europe await members of the Employees' Recreation Association.

The ever active association has arranged for a round trip air flight and deluxe motor coach tour, all for the price of $462 per person. This includes meals, twin-bed rooms in good hotels, and related conveniences.

A special KLM-DC 73 flight will leave Philadelphia on October 22 and return on November 6. Eighty association members (including wives and children) are being sought for the trip.

For the 80 travelers there will be a boat ride on the canals of Amsterdam, a visit to the old Guild Houses in Brussels, a stop in Luxembourg, a trip by steamer up the castle lined Rhine River past the rock of the Lorelei, a visit to Heidelberg University, sightseeing amid the wild mountain scenery of Bavaria and Austria, a visit to the Principality of Liechtenstein, a pause on the shores of beautiful Lake Lucerne in Switzerland, and an eye catching trip through the Brenner Pass.

In Italy the tourists will see Verona, Vicenza and Padua with its huge basilica. In Venice they will ferry up the Grand Canal past scores of marble palaces to the Square of Saint Mark, where stand the Palace of the Doges and the jewel like Church of Saint Mark. From Italy they will go to Monte Carlo, Geneva and finally Paris . . . Paris with its great squares, the Church of Notre Dame, the Sorbonne, the Arch of Triumph and other wonders (though unfortunately there will be no time for the Folies Bergeres).

If you are interested, please call Joseph Goldberger, Personnel Assistant, Aut. 2871, Room 1225, Annex. The trip is being handled by the Adams Travel Bureau, Inc., of Philadelphia. The price—$462 for everything—is said to be less than the standard round trip air passage alone. Applications must be received by September 1.

RIVER MONITORING EQUIPMENT is checked by Joseph V. Radziul (kneeling), who heads Water Department research and development, and Norman Beamer, chief chemist of U. S. Geological Survey. Equipment measures condition of Delaware River.

## DEPARTMENT TESTS OXYGEN ANALYZER TO WARN OF DELAWARE RIVER SPILLS

Quietly ticking away on the Chestnut Street Pier is a new device that keeps a constant watch on the Delaware River for the Water Department. Increases in river pollution are readily detected and measured, thus providing useful information for the department's far flung plants.

On temporary loan from a private company for testing purposes, the device, known as a "dissolved oxygen analyzer," is the forerunner of two permanent installations which the department will make at some future time. Pulling water samples constantly from the river, the device analyzes and records their oxygen content. This is a valuable clue to spills of raw sewage or industrial wastes into the river.

Philadelphia, it is reported, will be the first city in the country to make use of such devices on a permanent basis for the purpose of monitoring streams. It's all part of the Water Department's growing program of automatic controls.

The permanent installations, when they are made, will also keep check on river temperature and height.

The current testing, under way for more than a year, is being done in cooperation with the U. S. Geological Survey. Various governmental agencies have expressed an interest in the outcome of the Philadelphia tests.

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Published Monthly By**
**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

**Commissioner**.....Samuel S. Baxter
**Editor**.....Raymond J. Harris
**Editorial Assistant**.....Mary Wolicki
**Art**.....Henry Cheatham
James Gaskin
**Printing**.....Wilbert Mitchell & Staff

| DIVISION | REPORTER |
|---|---|
| Administrative | Rosemary Rosenthal |
| Construction | Mary A. Shea |
| Customer Service | Lillian Greenfield |
| Design (Distribution) | Frank Clyde |
| Design (Electrical) | Louis B. Sklar |
| Design (Hydraulic) | John Mirkil |
| Design (Main Sewers) | Mario G. Celoni |
| Design (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
| Design (Specifications) | Joseph Mair |
| Design (Structural) | Morris Siegel |
| Distribution | George Braden |
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| Mechanical Engineering | Harry Myers |
| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo |
| | Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | James Marinan |
| Pumping— | Vacant |
| Delaware Division | Shirley Henry |
| Southeast Works | Robert Jones |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Main Records | Edward Migliaccio |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Joseph Watson |


# *Personal Notes*

☆ ☆ ☆

*Meter Shop*

We are glad to see David Joseph back after his recent illness.

We are looking forward to the speedy recovery and return of Joseph Fine who is recuperating from an operation.

Congratulations and best wishes for many more happy years together for Harry Yablin and his wife, who celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary on May 27th.

*Construction*

Sympathy and condolences are extended to Joseph A. Thompson on the death of his mother, and to the family of William J. Mattis, who died in May.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to Samuel Costello. We hope his convalescence at home will be rapid and that he may soon return to his duties.

*Delaware Pumping*

Congratulations to Chief Hank Kalinoski and Mrs. Kalinoski on the new baby girl in their family.

• • •

Politeness is like an air cushion —there may be nothing in it, but it surely eases the jolts.


**GETTING THE POOL READY for "Miss A.W.W.A." is Deputy Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold (left), while Lauren W. Grayson, president of the American Water Works Association, looks on. This pleasant scene took place at the A.W.W.A. convention at Bal Harbour, Fla. Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter was scheduled to pour that bottle of pure Philadelphia water into the pool for the young lady, but Mrs. Baxter, who accompanied him, put her foot down on this kind of work. Don't look so pleased, Mr. Arnold. Several copies of this issue of the NEWS have been sent to Mrs. Arnold.**


*"Look, Lady, Whatever in th' world gave you th' idea this was Dacey's Bargain Basement??"*

## PUBLIC DEMAND BRINGS REPRINT OF WATER BOOK

A reprint of the popular Water Department brochure, "The Story of Philadelphia's Water" has appeared. The attractive 16-page, color booklet tells how the Philadelphia water system operates, as well as much about its history. Replete with pictures and an eye catching flow chart, the booklet has been in great demand by the public. About 14,000 copies have been given away to school groups, professional societies, and interested individuals since last October.

Copies of the booklet singly or in quantity may be obtained from the Commissioner's Office, Room 1103, Annex, LO 8-5950 ext. 6 or 10, and Automatic 2723. Individual copies are available at the Torresdale, Queen Lane and Belmont Water Treatment Plants.

# KALINOSKI NEW PUMP CHIEF AS 37 EMPLOYEES MOVE UP

This spring will long be remembered as the "promotion season" in the Water Department. Thirty-seven employees have moved a notch up that invisible ladder which leads to a higher tax bracket.

All kidding aside, the promotions were well earned, and the department is proud to announce the following appointments.

Henry F. Kalinoski has moved from assistant chief to chief of the Delaware Pumping Division. He replaces Edward J. Sweeney, who has become chief of the Schuylkill Pumping Division. This is Mr. Kalinoski's second promotion in less than a year. He became assistant chief last August, after having joined the old Water Bureau as an electrician in 1946 and having moved up to electrician foreman in 1954.

Taking over Mr. Kalinoski's job as assistant chief is James P. Brady, Jr. (not to be confused with James A. Brady, Jr., chief of Projects Control). Mr. Brady joined the Water Bureau in 1947 as a machinist and rose in the new Water Department to pumping station mechanic foreman. Before entering City service, he was a foreman with the Electric Power Equipment Company, of Philadelphia.

Two employees in the Construction Division have moved from class I to class II, public works inspector. They are Ralph C. Jones and Domenic Guglielmi. Mr. Jones entered the department in 1958. He was formerly employed by various contractors and builders. Mr. Guglielmi entered the Department of Licenses and Inspections in 1956 as a fire and housing inspector. He transferred to the Water Department in 1958. For a number of years he was self-employed as a bricklayer contractor.

*Other promotions are:*

Alvin A. Daniels, from filter plant mechanic helper to equipment operator I, Sewer Maintenance; Charles Batties, from laborer to filter plant mechanic helper, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; Arthur Glover, from laborer to sewer crawler, Sewer Maintenance; Nicholas J. Menna, from field inspector I to sewer maintenance foreman I, Sewer Maintenance; William Booker, George Dade, Leetoy Harris, Robert Patten, and Alfred Upshur, from trainee to water distribution repairman, Distribution; Albert P. Hart, from cement finisher I to II, Distribution; Haywood Austin, from filter plant mechanic helper to filter plant mechanic electrical operator, Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; John J. Kelly and Howard La Rue, from filter plant operator I to filter plant

*(Continued on Page 8)*

"Remember, Miss Finch, I'm here to help you with any questions—like Company policy, office procedure, what to do Saturday night."

## SET LOCAL PORT CRUISES TO BERMUDA, CARIBBEAN

For City employees planning to take that vacation fling some time in the autumn, the City Department of Commerce reports two special cruises from the Port of Philadelphia.

The "Santa Paula," the newest cruise vessel of the Grace Line, will sail for a 12-day Caribbean cruise on Sepetember 17. It will include stops at the Ports of Curacao, Aruba, Kingston, Caracas and Nassau. For City employees the cruise will require eight and one-half days of leave. Tickets can be purchased through the Lion Cruise Service, 1430 Spruce Streets. Rates start at $465 per person.

Off to Nassau and Bermuda will be the "Gripsholm," the modern cruise vessel operated by the Swedish American Line. The vessel will sail on October 24 and November 9 for a six-day voyage. Employees would have to set aside five days of leave for the first trip and three for the second. The cruises are being handled by the Adams Travel Bureau, 1800 Chestnut Street. The rates run from $145 to $320 per person.

Further information on these tours may be obtained from the travel agencies or from the office of Deputy Commerce Director Peter Schauffler, aut. 542.

## NEW BALL LEAGUE STIRS STIFF TEAM COMPETITION

The new intra-departmental softball league, organized by the Employees' Recreation Association, is now in full swing. A half-dozen games among six divisional teams have been played to date.

At last count the Northeast-Delaware team was leading, with five victories, while the City Hall Annex-Construction team won four games and lost two. The Southeast-Southwest combination was standing off opponents, with three triumphs and three losses. Other teams in the field are Distribution, Belmont Filters and the Schuylkill Division.

Two home fields are being used, one at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, the other at Edgely Field, 33rd and Dauphin Streets.

The league commissioner is Peter Crescitelli, while managers are: Northeast-Delaware, Ed Milburn; Annex-Construction, Leonard Leibowitz; Southeast-Southwest, Leon Taylor; Schuylkill Division, John Sullivan; Distribution, Joseph Forgas; Belmont Filters, George Mitchell.

The new league is becoming increasingly popular.

## CALLING FISHERMEN . . . AND EVEN GOLFERS . . .

For the active and the inactive there will be plenty doing this summer, according to the Employees' Recreation Association.

For the active spirits a golf tournament will be held, while a number of fishing trips will be arranged for souls of more indolent disposition. In keeping with good governmental tradition, special committees have been named to organize these affairs.

Fishermen have been asked to contact John Irwin, of the Accounting Section (Aut. 369), while golfers may talk to John Mirkil, of the Design Branch (Aut. 924).

GEORGE FRED SMITH
Retiring Poet

# NEWS POET RETIRES ENDING NINE YEARS

With this issue, the Water Department News prints one of the last poems of George Fred Smith, the newspaper's unofficial poet. Mr. Smith, who has done much to brighten the News with a steady flow of poetry, will retire in June under mandatory Civil Service provisions.

Mr. Smith is that rare combination . . . arithmetician and versifier. He has spent most of his adult life in accounting work. For 21 years (from 1921 to 1942) he traveled Southeastern Pennsylvania, setting up accounting systems for the Burroughs Adding Machine Company. He was put in charge of the company's local sales office.

It was in 1940 that the accountant started to combine words as well as figures. Mr. Smith turned out his first poem, a review of family history. The poetry bug hit him deeply and he has been writing verses ever since. In the last two years he has written three or four dozen poems . . . many of them on request. "Every time someone has a birthday, I am asked for a poem," comments Mr. Smith.

A member of the Customer Service Section, Mr. Smith has been with the Water Department for almost nine years He has two children, a son who is a physician and a daughter who works for the Federal Government. He lives with his wife at 230 South 51st Street.

## *My Swan Song*

*June nineteen-sixty has arrived, when old folks have to rest,*
*It's been a pleasure knowing you, I wish you all the best.*
*I'll miss the fellowship we had and arguments as well,*
*The ride to work each morning and the 'phone's insistent bell*
*While watching television and walking "Butchie" too,*
*I'll think of all the good times, I've had with folks like you.*
*I hope you all remember me, as friend to one and all,*
*And not just as another "Bloke," who worked in City Hall.*

GEORGE FRED SMITH,
*Customer Service*

## YOUR PAY INCREMENT

About this time of year . . . with vacation in sight . . . many employees are wondering about the pay increment.

The Personnel Office notes that the increment is given annually to each employee on his anniversary (or "appointment") date until he reaches the top of the pay scale for his type of job. To receive the increment the employee must obtain an annual performance rating of at least satisfactory.

The anniversary date (on which the increment becomes due) may change as a result of breaks in service, promotions, pay range redeterminations and adjustments. For employees whose status remains unchanged, however, the old date will normally stand.

## NEW COMMITTEE TO PLAN LONG RANGE RECREATION

The Employees' Recreation Association believes in looking ahead. A "development committee," appointed by the board of directors June 8, is studying a long range recreation program for Water Department employees.

The Committee is headed by Kenneth Zitomer, vice president. It consists of Ed Milburn, Northeast Works; Morris Pirolli, Distribution Section; Leonard Liebowitz, Construction Section; Erwin Baskin, Plant Maintenance Section; Melvin Banks, Accounting Section; Samuel Schwartz, Commissioner's Office; Peter Crescitelli, Schuylkill Pumps; John Mirkil, Design Branch; and Henry Hoochuk, Southwest Works .

The committee has invited ideas for its program from employees. Ideas may be submitted to any member of the committee.

**This is your**
**LAST CHANCE**

to take that Puerto Rican trip.

Tel. Joe Goldberger Aut. 2871

## CITY ISSUES FOLDERS WITH WIDE INFORMATION

Persons interested in useful literature will find an abundance in the Office of the City Representative.

Among recent items published by that office's Division of Public Information are the following:

"Your City at Your Service," a blue folder, artistically laid out, with a wealth of handy information about City government services, such as where to call in case of emergency, how to get a permit, where to apply for surplus food, how to obtain public health tests and inoculations, where to find housing or employment, etc.

"Philadelphia in the Summer," a red and black folder listing the most interesting places to visit, as well as coming events, in Philadelphia.

"Philadelphia Transit—A Progress Report," describing the City's accomplishments and plans for solving the transit problem.

Individuals may obtain copies of these publications by writing or calling at the Division of Public Information, Room 201, City Hall, or telephoning the division through the municipal switchboard, MU 6-9700.

THE LUCKY 13: Leading the Eastern Division of the Industrial League, the Water Department's Softball Team, is well on its way to another championship. It has been winning more than 80 per cent of all its games. Front row, l. to r., Mike Matteo, William Ehmann, John Pagano, Buck Davis, and Jim Smith. Rear, l. to r., Lesser Lindenbaum (manager), Jim Malone, Joe McLaughlin, Bob Lewis, Floyd Jones, Earl Weber, Ed Milburn (business manager), and John Watson.

# Ye Scoreboard

## June 3: Industrial League Softball Team Standings

| Team | Won | Lost | % |
|---|---|---|---|
| Water Department | 9 | 2 | .820 |
| O. P. Schumen | 5 | 3 | .621 |
| Quaker City MTR. | 6 | 5 | .542 |
| Masland Duran | 4 | 4 | .500 |
| Supplee-Biddle | 3 | 6 | .335 |
| Schmidt's Brewery | 3 | 7 | .300 |
| Reading Company | 2 | 7 | .252 |

## How Our Players Did

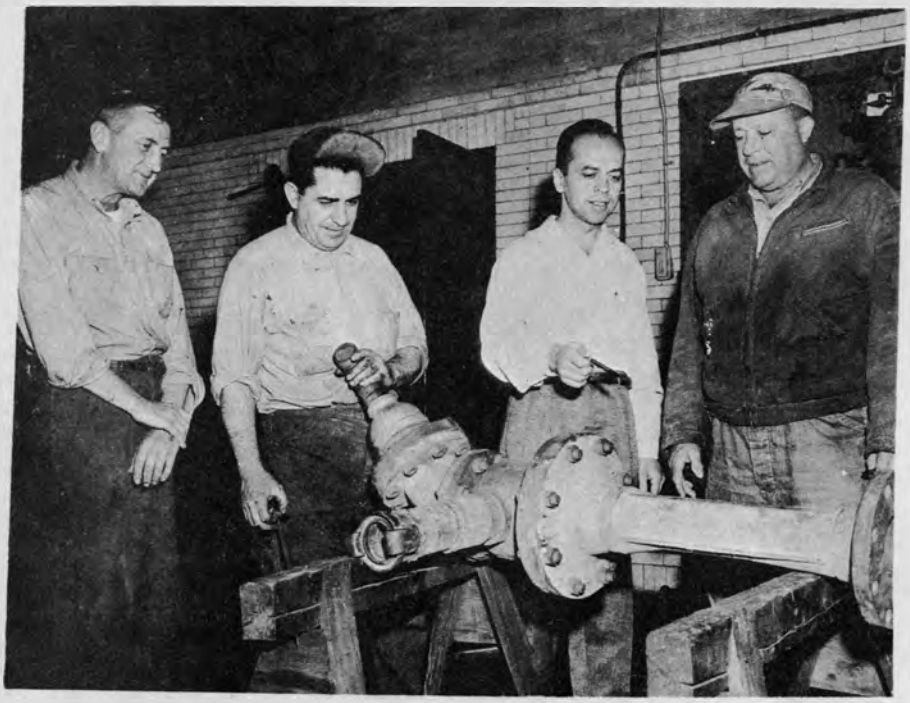
| | At Bat | Hits | Bat. Avg. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Davis | 36 | 19 | .528 |
| Ehmann | 24 | 12 | .500 |
| Malone | 39 | 17 | .436 |
| D'Amelio | 21 | 8 | .381 |
| Matteo | 33 | 12 | .364 |
| Smith | 12 | 4 | .333 |
| Mario | 32 | 10 | .3125 |
| Jones | 10 | 3 | .300 |
| Watson | 41 | 12 | .213 |
| Pagano | 15 | 4 | .267 |
| Williams | 9 | 2 | .222 |
| Fisher | 18 | 4 | .222 |
| Lewis | 24 | 4 | .167 |
| McLaughlin | 18 | 3 | .167 |
| Craney | 7 | 1 | .143 |

In the 11 games played so far this season, the team has batted in 94 runs. Watson pitched a total of 81 1/3 innings, allowed 52 hits, and had 91 strike-outs. Some relief pitching has been done by Matteo and Davis.

HONEST, that's the opening ball—not a fireball—which B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director, is tossing to Pitcher John Watson. In Watson's hands, however, the ball's temperature will soar before the game is over.

BILL EHMANN prepares for one of John Watson's fast pitches.

# HOW AN IDEA WON CYWINSKI $350



1. STANLEY CYWINSKI, a sewage plant maintenance supervisor, explains a new idea to fellow workers. His idea would make a notable change in the pumping of sludge from digester tanks at the sewage treatment works. Under previous methods, six weeks and the labor of several employees were required to clean out a digester. The suction lines often became clogged and could not be effectively backflushed. Heavier sludge could not be moved by two pumps alone. Cywinski's plan will clear up this trouble. His idea is to install a jet to educe as a booster. Sludge will go through the jet at high pressures, and backflushing will be easy.

2. THE PLAN WORKED. Not only was pumping efficiency increased, but digester tanks were cleaned in two weeks instead of six. Labor time was reduced, and it was estimated that the department would save over $5,100 annually. In the face of this good news, Cywinski sat down to turn in his idea as a formal suggestion. He fills out a suggestion form obtained from the department's Personnel Office.

3. THE SUGGESTION COMMITTEE of the department meets to consider Cywinski's idea. They agree that the idea is a meritorious one. Since it has proved its value in the field, it may be submitted forthwith to the Cenral Awards Board. L. to r., B. Barney Palmer, Victor A. Appleyard, Gerald E. Arnold, Ervin L. Davis, and John Briggs, all top officials.

The End of

## OUR $$$TORY

Stanley Cywinski received $100 for his suggestion in 1959, under the City's cash awards system for valuable suggestions from its employees.

This, however, was not the end of the story. On May 24, 1960, Mayor Richardson Dilworth presented Mr. Cywinski with a check for an additional $250. The new check was one of the City's two grand awards for the two best ideas offered in 1959. The presentation was made before 1,200 City employees at the annual City Employees' Week luncheon.

Mr. Cywinski is an employee of whom the Water Department is proud. The $350 which he has received is only a token of Mr. Cywinski's own value to the department. For it is only through the best efforts of all employees—including the willingness of employees to give something extra in the way of a service or an idea—that our department can do its best job for the public.

**COMMISSIONER SAMUEL S. BAXTER speaks to bus guides at briefing during City Employees' Week. Approximately 30 employees from various City departments volunteered to shepherd public on free bus visits to 16 City installations. Tours drew 25 bus loads, or more than 1,000 visitors, despite rainy weather and Memorial week-end exodus. Visitors were enthusiastic about trips.**

"He's like this once every week. He figured by his income tax that he works one day out of every week for the government."

## JOB OPENINGS

The Water Department has openings for a number of specialized personnel. The positions include the following:

Accountant II, $4882-$6131; chemist I, $4456-$5348; civil engineer II, $6417-$8061; clerk stenographer II, $3712-$4068; laboratory technician (either bacteriology or quantitative analysis), $3548-$4456; sewage treatment operator I, $4258-$4664, and II, $4456-$5109; tabulating equipment operator I, $3238-$4068, and II, $3712-$4664; water meter repairman I, $3712-$4258, and II, $4664-$5348.

# WATER WINS SAFETY COUNCIL AWARD -- ALSO HONORS 164 "SAFE DRIVERS"

Safety consciousness appears to have taken a firm grip on the Water Department. Two important developments underscore this fact.

The department has won the Philadelphia Safety Council's "Certificate of Achievement in Accident Prevention." This award, presented a short time ago, is in recognition of a 13 per cent reduction achieved by the department in its accident frequency rate during 1959.

As if this were not enough, 164 employees who operate department vehicles have earned "Safe Driver Awards" for 1959. Of these, 38 will get the awards for the first time, 42 will receive two-year awards, and 84 have won three-year awards.

Presentation of the driver awards will be made shortly. Full details will be published in a special edition of "Safety News."

# TWENTY-FOUR EMPLOYEES JOIN WATER DEPARTMENT

As 43 employees leave the department under mandatory retirement (July 1), many new employees are taking their places. Twenty-four new appointments have been announced by the Personnel Office.

The department extends a warm welcome to each of the employees listed below:

James Washington, engineering aide I, Construction; Antonio Procaccino, laborer, Sewer Maintenance; Cosby O. Fennell, laborer, Sewer Maintenance; Shepherd Taylor, laborer, Sewer Maintenance; Stanley Zagnojny, electrical foreman II, Delaware Division Pumps; Rosanne Stinsman, clerk stenographer II, Construction; James D. Pickett, laborer, Southeast Sewage Works; John R. Schoolfield, filter plant mechanic helper, Belmont; Melvin Sisco, security officer I, Sewer Maintenance.

Charles Keets, laborer, Southwest Sewage Works; Charles Dickson, Jr., filter plant mechanic II, Belmont; Thomas Guerrant, laborer, Central Stores Unit; Charles Stansbury, Jr., clerk messenger, Design; Willie McIlwain, laborer, Southeast Sewage Works; Joseph Onitsky, machinist, Plant Maintenance; James W. Wilkerson, laboratory technician, Testing Laboratory; Stanley Kaboskie, meter and gauge mechanic II, Load Control Center.

Charlie Sparks, pumping station mechanic helper, Schuylkill Division Pumps; William Evans, sewer crawler, Sewer Maintenance; Salvatore Scuderi, tabulating equipment supervisor I, General Administration; Walter Glinski, trades helper (mechanic), Plant Maintenance; Marvin Hardy, filter plant mechanic helper, Torresdale; Steve L. Ellis, pumping station mechanic helper, Schuylkill; Oscar Paulin, Jr., water distribution repairman trainee, Distribution.

* * * * *

## CORRECTION

**The May issue of the NEWS carried incorrect details on the promotions of three employees. The employees were promoted as follows:**

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

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

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

## HAIL TO THE HALE! 456 GET CERTIFICATES

There's only one explanation for it. Philadelphia water must be good to work around as well as to drink.

Four hundred fifty-six Water Department employees have been awarded "Certificates of Recognition" for not using any sick leave in 1959. The employees, located in all divisions of the department, recently received the certificates from their supervisors.

It is planned to continue this new form of recognition and there will be special awards next year for employees who have been "healthy" for two years in a row.

YES, IT'S GRADUATION DAY for 10 retiring Water Department employees. Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter presents diploma (a $25 gift certificate) to one of the grads, above. Later Harry Werner made moving valedictory speech on behalf of class. Below, piano-saxophone-banjo-drums combo plays college medley for 150 proud "relatives" (all from department). The affair was sponsored by the Design Section, and arranged by its able organizer, Mike Lario. (P.S., if you recognize the drummer, you go to the head of next year's class.)

**Other Promotions are:**

*(Continued from Page 3)*

mechanic electrical operator, Torresdale; Charles T. Yeager, from filter plant mechanic I to filter plant mechanic electrical operator, Torresdale; Frank R. Clyde, from engineering aide III to civil engineer I, Projects Control; Thomas A. Gallagher, from filter plant mechanic helper to filter plant operator I, Torresdale; Carlo J. Frisco, from water distribution repairman to foreman, Distribution.

John Mooney, from engineering aide I to II, Design; Charles Mermon, from filter plant mechanic helper to filter plant operator I, Belmont Water Treatment Plant; Richard Pinder, from chemist I to sanitary engineer, Belmont Laboratory; Richard Reckeweg, from water meter repairman I to water meter parts inspector, Meter Shop; John Roberts, from maintenance mechanic I to filter plant mechanic II, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; Frank Guarino, from maintenance mechanic I to meter and gauge mechanic II, 29th Street Pumping Office; Robert J. Knox, from engineering aide II to III, Construction; Roy Lomanno, from laborer foreman I to water system load control dispatcher, Load Control Center.

Ralph Lucas, from laborer to sewer maintenance foreman I, Sewer Maintenance; James Marinan, from meter and gauge mechanic II to water system load control dispatcher, Load Control Center; Raymond Martin, from water distribution repairman to foreman, Distribution; Victor Mills, from laborer to brick mason, Distribution; Ray Sommers, from meter and gauge mechanic I to II, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; William Williams, from filter plant mechanic II to meter and gauge mechanic II, Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; Arthuretta Bailey, from clerk I to duplicating equipment operator, Administrative Division; Wilbert Mitchell, from clerk II to duplicating equipment operator, Administrative Division.

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. AUGUST, 1960

Ewarts' "Improved Spray Bath" of 1882 had no less than ten control handles whereby bather could produce countless aquatic variations.

## DID YOU KNOW . . .

- Louis XIII had cushions in his bath.
- Queen Elizabeth I had a valve water-closet, and took a bath once a month "whether she need it or no."
- Waterloo may have been won in the bathroom. (Napoleon simmered in a very hot bath every day, which surely sapped his strength. Wellington had a cold tub daily.)
- Baths have been concealed in sofas, washbasins in pianos, and water-closets in various pieces of furniture.
- Marie Antoinette bathed daily but was considered eccentric for not rinsing off in her second tub.
- Shower bathers once had to wear strong hats. The water cascaded down from a 20-foot high tank.
- Wine or cologne once could politely be added to bath water—but eating a mutton chop in the bath proper was not the thing to do.

These and hundreds of other fascinating facts are revealed in "Clean and Decent," an extraordinary history of personal hygiene down the ages.

# FEVERISH ACTIVITY MOUNTS AS NEW WATER PLANT EMERGES

Let historians look to battlefields; a scholarly English architect and artist, Lawrence Wright, has decided more was to be learned about past peoples *from their bathrooms.*

Medieval tubs, usually round and of wood, were lengthened sometimes, so the whole family and their guests could bathe together while the water was hot. On occasion a tray of food was provided, as well as musicians.

*CAST IRON PIPE NEWS*

## *Exclusive!*

### *In This Issue*




"A glass of WHAT?"

Some time this autumn Philadelphia will have its second semi-automatic water treatment plant.

Work at the Queen Lane plant, Queen Lane and Fox St., is moving forward feverishly. Painters are swinging their brushes; pavers are spreading a new flooring; landscapers are deftly touching up the outside. The main job of reconstructing the rapid sand filters, however, is nearly complete.

Forty new rapid sand filter beds, controlled electronically by push-button console tables, stand ready. They will provide a daily output of 120 million gallons of water and will be capable of handling peak loads of 150 million gallons. These loads compare with the 100 million gallons capacity of the plant before reconstruction.

The $5.5 million job got under way early in 1956. It represented the second stage in the transformation of Queen Lane. A $4 million chemical pre-treatment building was opened in June 1955.

Unlike the new Torresdale plant, which was built alongside the old plant, the new Queen Lane filters were constructed on the site of existing filters. The four and one-half year old job thus presented many challenges in keeping the plant running.

Queen Lane was one of five slow sand filter plants built by Philadelphia in the first decade of this century. In the 1920's some of the slow sand filters were converted to rapid sand. The growing demand posed by a growing population, however, rendered both the slow sand and rapid sand filters obsolescent. Larger capacity, faster filter bed washing, improved chemical treatment were needed to give Philadelphians a high quality product in adequate supply. For this reason, modernization of Queen Lane—as well as other plants—was undertaken.

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Published Monthly By**
**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

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| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Joseph Watson |


## DEPARTMENT RECRUITS NINETEEN NEW EMPLOYEES

Nineteen new employees have entered a variety of Water Department jobs, ranging from filter plant mechanic to graduate engineer, and from clerk-typist to chemist.

The new appointees, to whom the department extends a warm welcome, are:

Joe Patterson, filter plant mechanic II, Torresdale Treatment Plant; Henry Stratton, sewer maintenance foreman I, Sewer Maintenance; Harry Simpson, chemist I, Queen Lane Laboratory; Sylvester Palmer, maintenance mechanic I, Southeast Sewage Works; Nathan Simmons, water distribution repairman trainee, Distribution; Harvey Comer, engineering aide I, Design; Lawrence Fitts, pumping station mechanic helper, Delaware Pumps; James Kenny, field inspector I, Meter Shop; William D'Oranio, chemist I, Belmont Laboratory.

William Ellis, clerk-typist I, Sewer Maintenance; James Johnson, pumping station mechanic helper, Delaware Pumps; Louis Mathes, graduate engineer, Construction; Daniel McCusker, graduate engineer, Load Control Center; John Carr, filter plant mechanic II, Queen Lane Treatment Plant; Mary Seney, clerk-typist I, Fairhill Pumping Station; Ernest Myers, security officer I, Distribution; Oliver Fisher, clerk I, Distribution; Anne Dodelin, chemist I, Belmont Laboratory; Jerome Glickman, graduate engineer, Design.

**A COOLING VISION OF THINGS TO COME appears above for all the heat conscious readers of the NEWS. This picture is not intended to torture our readers but only to remind them of the delightful forms which Philadelphia water can assume. Our public consumes on the average 343 million gallons of water daily—and on really hot summer days up to 480 million gallons. It's real cool, man, that Philadelphia water.**

## MILD SUMMER KEEPS CUSTOMERS FIT BUT CAUSES WATER CONSUMPTION LAG

The good old summer time is when most people realize the importance of water. More than usual, they drink it, they shower with it, they swim in it, they drench their lawns with it, they freeze it, and they dilute odd, cooling potions with it.

This summer, with the exception of very warm days, there appears to be a curious self-restraint among our customers. In June and July Philadelphia's water treatment plants distributed a daily average of 351 million gallons of pure, palatable water. This compares with an annual daily average of 343 million gallons.

The peak day up to the close of July was June 28, when Philadelphians consumed 418 millions of gallons. Peak hourly demand on June 28 was at a rate of 539 million gallons daily. Fortunately Philadelphia's modernized treatment plants and pumping stations were able to meet this demand comfortably.

In other years there were a few days when total demand ran as high as 480 million gallons, but this summer, mild though it has been, is far from over and it would be strange if that high peak were not reached again.

June was the driest month, it is reported, since 1949, and the third driest month on record, with the records going back three-quarters of a century. Precipitation locally was only .71 inches.

Particularly heavy demand occurs early in the evening when meals are prepared and weary toilers relax by watering their lawns. One of Philadelphia's great blessings is that there is enough water for everyone and every reasonable purpose. With a country wide shortage of water treatment and distribution facilities—and often water itself—Philadelphia's two large rivers and its important program of water system modernization enable Philadelphians to look forward confidently to the future. Although local demand, following the national trend, will probably grow markedly in the next two decades, our water system will be ready for it.

# TALL DOOR TO CAREER PROMOTION SWINGS WIDE FOR 23 EMPLOYEES

That the Water Department is a good place to get ahead is evidenced by 23 additional promotions in the past month. These follow closely the record 37 of last month.

Mandatory retirements account for much, though not all, of the activity.

Heading the list of promoted employees is Kenneth J. Zitomer, who has taken charge of an inspection unit within the Construction Branch. Mr. Zitomer has stepped up one grade, from civil engineer III to IV. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering (1948), and also attended Ursinus College and Villanova University.

Employed by the Reading Railroad Company as an assistant track supervisor from 1948 to 1953, Mr. Zitomer entered the Water Department in October of the latter year.

In the clerical force two men have advanced from clerk II to III. These are Donald Mandell, who transferred from the Meter Shop to Sewer Maintenance, and James P. Diamond, of the Distribution Division. Mr. Mandell possesses the degree of associate in accounting from Temple University (1951) and has been with the City since September, 1951. Mr. Diamond joined the Water Department in 1953, after working four years for the Free Library at Logan Square.

Other promoted employees are:

Dominic Guglielmi and Ralph Jones, from public works inspector I to II, Construction; Harry Darby and King Roseborough, from laborer to water distribution repairman trainee, Distribution; Mercer Washington, from water distribution repairman trainee to repairman, Distribution; Dominic Berardi and Norton Jackson, from filter plant operator I to filter plant mechanic electrical operator, Queen Lane Treatment Plant; Elijah Jackson, from stockhandler to mechanical stores clerk, Central Stores Depot; William Abel, from semiskilled laborer to maintenance mechanic I; Sylvester Campbell, from water treatment laboratory supervisor to sanitary engineer II, Quality Control Section.

Salvatore DiVincenzo, from filter plant mechanic II to filter plant maintenance supervisor, Queen Lane Treatment Plant; James Gaskin, from architect I to II, Design; John Pierce, from filter plant mechanic helper to filter plant mechanic electrical operator, Queen Lane Treatment Plant; Allen Stackhouse, from mechanic engineer I to II, Design; Wyatt Thomas, from laborer to equipment operator I, Distribution; Stanley Carroll, from engineering aide II to III, Design.

Ethelbert Whittington, from engineering aide II to III, Design; James Hilton, from field inspector I to field representative, Customer Service; William Schoettler, from maintenance mechanic I to II, Northeast Sewage Works; Norman Wilson, from custodial worker I to II, Building Maintenance.

## NAME ROBERT W. MASK STATE BUDGET OFFICER

Robert W. Mask, a Water Department administrative employee, has assumed his new duties as budget officer for the State Department of Welfare at Harrisburg.

Mr. Mask, who was with the Water Department for four years, worked until recently as a budget examiner II in the sewerage operations administrative office. Earlier he was employed by the Office of the Director of Finance.

As budget officer at Harrisburg, Mr. Mask will supervise a large budget unit.

A graduate of Berean Business and Trade School as well as Cheyney State Teachers College, Mr. Mask, who is 45, lives at 224 South Melville Street.


"That's the sort of thing you see only in an election year."

"Congratulations, All-Stars," says League Commissioner Jack McNeil

## ALL-STARS SHOOT TO PENNANT VICTORY

The Water Department All-Stars clinched an early pennant victory in the Eastern Division of the Industrial League by winning 20-1 over the Yellow Cab Company on Thursday evening, July 21st. Manager Lesser Lindenbaum, Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, reports that the team is eagerly awaiting the round robin play-off which will begin in August.

The team has had excellent pitching from starting hurler, John Watson, Distribution Section, who has amassed a 17-3 pitching record in 144-1/3 innings pitched. Watson has walked 51 and struck out 156—five less than his record year of 1958 (with one more game remaining to be played on the League schedule). Watson has won, during his ten years with the All-Stars, 60 games; and has been awarded a special trophy by Manager Lesser Lindenbaum.

In hitting, the All-Stars are led by Hayward Davis, Meter Shop, a .470 batter. The leading home run hitter is John Watson with six home runs.

# TRAINING GRADS GET CITY CERTIFICATES

Thirty-nine Water Department employees have been awarded certificates for courses completed at the spring session of the Philadelphia Government Training Institute.

The institute, operated jointly by the City government and several local colleges and universities, is designed to prepare municipal employees for higher future responsibilities.

The eight-week sessions, which were started last autumn, were conducted for the second time in March, April and May. Courses covered communications, City government, personnel practices and supervision.

Employees who earned certificates for the spring session are:

Basic supervision—Albert A. Tyman, Charles A. Mullen, Kendell J. Lawson, Robert W. Kershaw, Wendell S. Jeffery, George W. Gilbert, Charles J. Doerr, Robert W. Bradstock, Edward Witkowski, Joseph T. Prince.

Albert K. Forman, Eugene L. Waszily, George H. Tucker, Richard A. Supplee, Reuben Pearl, Cornelius J. O'Kane, Charles B. Grandy, Edith Hinson Frye, Thomas C. Dugan, George J. Chambers, Theodore C. Blessman, and Erwin I. Baskin.

Philadelphia Government—Robert W. Henry, Jr., and Mary C. Cotten.

Personnel Practices—Harold Crawford, Hubert J. DiGiacomo, Frank P. Ingenito, Hilton James, Margaret Jenkins, John Perry, Lawrence Stallworth, Charles L. Wragg.

Communications — John F. Tancredi, Batholomew F. Monaghan, Charles L. Jackson, Mary M. Drain, Anna M. Dougherty, George M. Braden, and Robert Albergotti.

B. Barney Palmer, administrative services officer, taught the course in basic supervision.

**"JETS ARE NOTHING NEW"**

**"Jet Engine Built by Heron about A.D. 1."**

**AWAITING RECREATION ASSOCIATION MEMBERS is Neuschwanstein, the fairy like castle of King Ludwig II, nestled in the Bavarian Alps of Germany. This castle, designed as a shrine to composer Richard Wagner, is one of numerous interesting sights in Germany, Switzerland, Italy and France that will greet Water Department employees who take the two-weeks' tour (October 22-November 6) arranged by the Recreation Association. For trip details, see last issue of the NEWS.**

## CHESS TEAM EYES CITY WIDE CHAMPIONSHIP AS IT WARMS UP FOR OCTOBER TOURNAMENT

The Water Department chess team is moving into the bigtime.

Having fought eight contests in recent months (with four victories, three draws and only one loss), the team is now looking forward to the Philadelphia Chess League tournament, which starts in October. The prize will be the city championship.

The department's expert five, who represent the cream of the chess enthusiasts in the Design branch, recently battled American Legion Post 396, self-styled city "champs," to a tie. Gus VanNyanatten, John Mirkil, Allen Stackhouse, Mickey Rocco, and Al Tresoff are seasoned veterans at this sort of thing.

Between now and the fall tournament, the team will warm up by playing the Pawn Chess Club (of 712 North 43rd St.), the University of Pennsylvania, Marple Newtown, and Blue Cross. The warm up should pay off, for there are 10 teams to be beaten in the Philadelphia Chess League.

# RETIREMENTS

Robert Smith, 66, of 410 North Wanamaker St.: A semi-skilled laborer at the Meter Shop, Mr. Smith was with the Water Department for 11 years.

Henry Jacoby, 68, of 4302 Germantown Ave.: Mr. Jacoby was a sewer maintenance foreman in the sewer maintenance section at the time of his retirement. Employed by the department for seven years, he formerly worked for the U. S. Mint and various private firms.

John J. Deegan, 64, of Arrott Arms, Arrott and Leiper Sts.: A Chemist II at the department's Testing Laboratory, Mr. Deegan completed 12 years with the City. He was previously employed by the U. S. Navy Testing Laboratory, the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, and the Electric Storage Battery Company.

Walter J. Kopec, 61, of 3417 Almond St.. Mr. Kopec was a veteran of 33 years in the municipal service. A water distribution repairman, he worked in the Distribution Division.

Joseph J. Gothie, 62, of 1857 South 65th St.: Completing 33 years with the old Water Bureau and the Water Department, Mr. Gothie was a water distribution supervisor in the Distribution Division. He once worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Matthew Williams, 76, of 2226 West Oxford St.: A laborer in the Central Stores Depot at the time of retirement, Mr. Williams had 12 years of City service. He formerly worked for the U. S. Navy Yard.

Walter V. O'Rourke, 65, of 5520 Angora Terrace: Mr. O'Rourke was a clerk in the Distribution Division, with 17 years of municipal service.

James Marshall, 62, of 6318 Ambrose St.: A sandwashing machine operator at the Queen Lane filter beds, Mr. Marshall had 31 years of service with the Water Bureau and later the department.

Anthony Scaramucci, 63, of 432 North Daggett St.: A laborer at the Belmont Water Treatment Plant, Mr. Scaramucci finished 15 years of municipal employment.

To all these fine employees, the department extends warm good wishes.

## BOWLERS PICK NEW SPOT TO LAUNCH FALL SEASON

With an active season ahead of it, the Water Department Bowling League is getting ready for increasing participation by employees this fall.

The league will start the season in September at a new time and location. Bowlers will meet at 9:00 P.M. Thursdays at the Glenwood Bowlerdrome, Broad Street and Glenwood Avenue.

Plans include the organization of teams from various plants and sections of the department; election of team captains by bowlers; and presentation of awards, both individual and group, at the end of the season.

Bowling is rapidly becoming the most popular sport sponsored by the Recreation Association. Employees who wish to participate should contact Joseph Goldberger, personnel assistant, aut. 2871, or LO 8-5950 ext. 227, in room 1225, Annex. The league is headed by Russell Thomas, Meter Shop.

## DID YOU KNOW . . .

Water is used in staggering amounts?

National per capita consumption in 1940 was 122 gallons a day. In 1960 it is 150 gallons, and is expected to reach 165 gallons by 1975. In Philadelphia it has already reached 171 gallons.

One-half of the 125 million people who use public water supplies can't be sure of having enough water available on a hot summer day to put out a major fire.

As important as water is even to the most primitive way of life, it had to be rationed in well over 1,000 United States communities in one recent year.

America should be spending more than $1 billion a year on its water systems to keep up and catch up by 1970 . . . but will spend only $450 million in 1960.

Philadelphia, thanks to abundant rivers and a forward looking water system modernization program, is averting these pitfalls.

THE "OVER THE TABLE" SELL is in full swing as department officials take time out to explain operations to three prospective engineering recruits. The interested listeners, Daniel J. McCusker (left), Jerome Glickman (next) and Louis K. Mathes (fourth from left), all recent college graduates subsequently accepted positions as graduate engineers. The "salesmen" are: Miss Regina Powers, assistant personnel officer; Deputy Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold (center rear), and running to the right, Abe Finkelstein, chief of Design; Ervin L. Davis, personnel officer; and Vincent L. Hughes, chief of construction.

HOW CAN THEY DO THAT TO A WATER DEPARTMENT MAN? Paul Siegel has a moment of peril while playing in the "Great Sebastian."

## "TO BE OR NOT TO BE AN ACTOR ?" THAT IS NO QUESTION FOR PAUL SIEGEL

The Water Department has a "budding" young actor in its midst who hopes some day to become a full-fledged dramatic star, and he is friendly Paul Siegel of the Construction Branch.

Paul, a clerk who works with payroll and construction records, lives at 5413 Howland Street and has been with the Water Department since March of 1953. He started out at the Roxborough Filter Plant—left for a two-year hitch with the U. S. Army, and then returned to work at the Meter Shop before transferring to Construction. He was in the service from July of 1956 to 1958 dealing with transportation and special servvices with shows in Japan.

Paul started with the Abbey Players in 1954 playing older character parts in such hits as "Pajama Game," "Diary of Anne Frank," "Hole in the Head," "Compulsion," "Detective Story," "Stalag 17" and many, many others. He has been in a total of 24 plays. Paul is smart enough to realize that he needs lots more training and that for the parts he portrays—he is too young to professionally play these older parts. Paul has many actors who are favorites of his, but off-hand could only think of Paul Muni as being an ideal.

The Abbey Players have two theatres—the Abbey Playhouse at 5200 Ridge Avenue and the Abbey Stagedoor at 6600 Rising Sun Avenue. Paul plays at both theatres for the full winter season and is also on the play selection committee, working on the planning of plays for the coming season. The Rising Sun Avenue Theatre has a revolving stage for multiple set shows and of course this place is nearer to Paul's home.

We most sincerely hope that Paul realizes his ambition of becoming a famous dramatic actor and hope someday to be able to say, "We knew him when and gave him his first interview."

**Rosemary Rosenthal**

# Personal Notes

*Delaware Division Pumps*

Congratulations to Engineer Steve Gagajewski and Mrs. Gagajewski on the birth of a baby girl July 10th.

*Design Division*

Michale Ricchetti, now working for Design, boxed under the name of Mickey Martell in the 1920's.

Our deep felt sympathy is extended to Richard Kramaroff on the death of his wife.

Congratulations to the lucky parents of a new crop of babies:

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Luciani, a baby boy; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Maddlen, a baby girl; and Mr. and Mrs. Rocco Giannini, a baby girl.

*Load Control Center*

Al Cardano divided his vacation between the Pocono Mountains and Atlantic City. At the Steel Pier his first choice (we hear) was the Globe Theater, but his wife vetoed the project.

Jim Marinan and family visited for a family re-union before winding New York City and Suffolk County up a week of vacation at Atlantic City.

Recent additions to the Load Control Center roster include Roy Lomanno, formerly of Belmont filters and now promoted to load control dispatcher; and graduate engineers Paul W. Wims, of Howard University, and Daniel J. McCusker, of the University of Pennsylvania. Of Dan, Joe McCusker, Belmont Lab, proudly said, "That's my boy" during a recent training tour.

Although the Load Control Center is still undergoing testing, outside visitors continue to view its possibilities for their home towns. Foreign visitors came from England, Turkey, Canada and Argentina. C. F. Wertz, new president of the American Water Works Association, recently visited the center.

John Coscia, Drexel senior student, has left to continue his studies.

*Distribution*

Bob Niccolucci has been released from the hospital and is recuperating at his home. We're all hoping to see him back with us real soon.

Jerry King is also on our sick list; after being hospitalized. We'd like to see him back at his desk in the very near future.

**DESIGN WORK COMES NATURALLY to Vaiinupo Alailima, Samoan engineering student, who is spending the summer in the department's Design Branch. Vai doesn't usually dress so colorfully for his job, but agreed to model this Samoan shirt just for our style conscious readers.**

# SAMOA STUDENT HAS ENGINEERING DREAM

Vaiinupo Alailima is an ambitious young man from Samoa who has his eye on degrees in civil engineering and law. To help along this dream he is spending the summer working in the Design Branch.

A student currently at the University of Pennsylvania, Vai came to the United States in 1950 on a scholarship. He studied at a college in Kansas and then for a year at the University of Illinois. Later Vai took a job in Washington, D. C., with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, collecting several years of experience. There he also met his American wife. He has one child.

Vai dreams of going back to Samoa when he has completed his studies. Samoa, a group of islands 2,600 miles southwest of Hawaii, is under United Nations trusteeship, with rule being divided between the United States and the United Kingdom.

A sub-tropical paradise, Samoa has no television sets, according to Vai, and the principal mode of travel is on foot. There are few automobiles.

Fellow workers in the Design Branch find Vai a most interesting conversationalist.

## TWO EMPLOYEES RETIRE AT RACE STREET STATION

Peter J. McKinley, 77, and Thomas Carey, 65, of the Race Street High Pressure Station, have retired after many years of City service.

Mr. McKinley, a construction repair laborer, started with the Water Department 11 years ago, but earlier he was employed by the old Bureau of Health. He began his working career at age 15 when he took up table cloth finishing. Later he cared for bird dogs as well as pacing and carriage horses. He acquired a varied experience as sub-foreman for the Works Progress Administration, landscaper for the Board of Public Education, and employee of various private firms. He lives at 4624 Griscom Street.

Mr. Carey, whose home is at 4835 Haverford Avenue, has been with the City since 1935. His first seven years were with the old Department of Sanitation. Later he entered the Water Bureau, putting in 16 years of service. Much of this time was spent at the Queen Lane and Torresdale Raw Water Pumping Stations. During the past year he was assigned to Race Street as a mechanic helper.

## SCHUYLKILL TEAM HITS TOP OF SOFTBALL LEAGUE

A resurgent Schuylkill Division has captured first place in the Employees' Recreation Association Softball League, defeating both the Northeast-Delaware and the City Hall Annex teams.

Northeast-Delaware got off to an early lead, but in a dramatic shift of fortunes, the underdog Schuylkill outfit won six victories in the last month, giving it a total of eight victories and five losses. The Northeast-Delaware and City Hall Annex teams have seven victories each, but the former has one loss less (four) than the latter. It is evident that the league pennant will not be decided until the last out.

League Commissioner Peter Crescitelli, Schuylkill Division, reports a mounting interest by employees in softball. Two additional teams will be added next season to the present six.

Satan: "What are you laughing at?"

Imp: "Oh, I just had a woman locked up in a room with a thousand hats and no mirrors."

## *PHOTOGRAPHERS*

Now is the time for all good photographers to take their photographs for the Employees' Recreation Association photography contest. The closing date of the contest is October 1, 1960.

Every Association member may submit up to three snapshots in black and white, and three more in color. A $10 first-prize award and a $5 second-prize award will be given in both the black and white and color classes. Along with the cash awards, trophies will be awarded to the first-prize winner in each class.

Pictures should be sent (name, address, and work station on a separate sheet) to John H. Mirkil, Design Section, 10th Floor, Penn Square Bldg., Philadelphia 7, Penna.

VICTOR A. PAGNOTTO (right), chief load control dispatcher, shows "trainee" Daniel J. McCusker the button to push on the panel at the new Load Control Center. Pagnotto will head one of the most unusual electronic systems in the water works field.

# ELECTRONIC WHIZ CENTER TO WHIR WITH FORMER NAVY MAN AT SWITCH

If there is really such a thing as a unique job, that of Victor A. Pagnotto must be it.

Mr. Pagnotto is the first chief load control dispatcher to be appointed by the Philadelphia Water Department, or for that matter any other large water utility in the country.

When the department's new load control system goes into operation soon, Philadelphia will be the first large American city to control part of its water distribution system by electronic signal and microwave. Sensing devices will relay data on water pressure, rate of flow, river height, etc. from 92 points in the distribution system to a ring of microwave towers, and these in turn will send the information by microwave to the Load Control Center at 29th and Cambria Streets. The information will be flashed in seconds, right around the clock.

Mr. Pagnotto, with four assistants working in shifts, will preside over the center's complicated electronic panels, which will unscramble the incoming signals and flash the information in intelligible form. Automatic typewriters will type out permanent records. Four remote pumping stations will be controlled from the center by push-button.

The new chief dispatcher has lived with the load control system for some time, directing the installation of equipment at the center and at the pumping stations which will be linked to it initially.

A veteran of water distribution, Mr. Pagnotto joined the old Water Bureau in 1946, after a stint with the U. S. Navy as a lieutenant commander. Working at first as a mechanical engineering inspector, Mr. Pagnotto rose by 1955 to the position of chief of the Schuylkill Pumping Division for the Water Department. As chief he supervised nine pumping stations until this year when, after his promotion to chief load control dispatcher, he turned over the pumping division to Edward Sweeney.

Married, with two children, Mr. Pagnotto lives a busy life. He has served as chairman of the Parents' Association of Norwood Academy (from which his son, Charles, 14, recently graduated) and is currently first vice president of the Mt. Airy Lions Club.

## OPENING APPROACHES FOR CONTROL CENTER

The Philadelphia water system will take another step into the electronic age when it opens its new load control center in the next few weeks. Tests, which have been going on for more than a year, are now nearly complete.

The center at 29th and Cambria Streets will be the receiving "brain" for an electronic network that will flash information continuously from nerve points throughout the water distribution system and permit central control of pumping stations located miles away.

The network, which is the first of any appreciable size in the American water works industry, will embrace initially about 10 per cent of the 3,000 miles of water mains as well as four filtered water pumping stations (Fox Chase, East Park, and two in Roxborough). Later—after a trial period—it will be expanded to include additional mains, pumping stations and other distribution facilities.

The next issue of the NEWS will carry a full story on this pioneering development. For a few of the details, see the accompanying article on Victor A. Pagnotto.

"When will your father be able to get back to work, Johnny?" asked a neighbor.

"Gee, I don't know," said Johnny, "but it will probably be a long time. I heard him tell Mom last night that *compensation* had set in."

*"I don't care if it is your first day... we don't dig holes that deep!"*

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. SEPT.-OCT., 1960


## SEWAGE EXPERTS GATHER HERE FROM ALL CORNERS OF NATION

Fourteen hundred protectors of the nation's many streams assembled in Philadelphia, Sunday, October 2, for a five-day convention.

Engineers, scientists and industrialists from all parts of the country gathered at the 33rd annual meeting of the Water Pollution Control Federation. This federation represents hundreds of sewage treatment utilities and related industries.

The sewage and industrial waste experts convened at Convention Hall from October 3 through 6 to listen to numerous technical discussions and to view a variety of exhibits. Headquarters was at the Sheraton Hotel.

At the opening Monday session Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter welcomedthe delegates to Philadelphia, a city which has made gigantic strides in recent years in the protection of its streams from pollution.

The Hon. Arthur S. Flemming, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, addressed the federation at its annual luncheon October 4, while Robert G. Dunlop, president of the Sun Oil Company, served as featured speaker October 5.

Plans for the annual gathering were made under the leadership of Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, who is chairman of the local arrangements committee of the host group—the Pennsylvania Sewage and Industrial Wastes Association.

### Panel Discussions

The busy convention enthusiasts had panel discussions covering more than 50 topics, ranging from sewer cleaning to plutonium waste control, from activated sludge processing to small plant operation, from textile wastes problems to lagoon operation, and from gamma radiation control to sludge handling in the steel industry.

A highlight was a report by Col. T. H. Setliffe, commanding officer of the district branch, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, on the recent "Comprehensive Survey of the Water Resources of the Delaware River Basin." Other speakers reported on the varying roles of states, research groups, and industry in water pollution control.

Several Water Department employees served on the local arrangements committee. They are Ralph Hoot, chief of sewage treatment, who is arranging the plant visits: John Cappio, safety engineer, in charge of transportation; and B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director, handling registration, with the assistance of Thomas Mullineaux, accounting officer.

### *PANEL DISPLAY TELLS WATER DEPARTMENT STORY*

The Water Department told its story to the rest of the country when the Water Pollution Control Federation met here.

A colorful display, 30 feet in length, was set up by the department at Convention Hall, where sewerage utilities and equipment manufacturers from all over America had special exhibits.

The department's display featured three huge panels, outlining in word and picture Philadelphia's modernization program for its water and sewerage systems. Numerous color transparencies and a large self-illuminating map of the department's facilities were included.

ROBERT F. WALKER

## APPOINT ROBERT WALKER CUSTOMER SERVICE CHIEF

Robert F. Walker, who has been keeping the department's customers happy for a number of months, has been given the job permanently.

Certified from a civil service list. Bob has been appointed full time chief of customer service, a unit which handles the complaints, requests, questions and emergency calls of two million consumers of Philadelphia water.

Acting chief since the death of Carl Frey, Bob heads a staff of interviewers and inspectors who process 68,000 field actions of 32 different kinds annually.

Until his recent appointment, Bob was an administrative analyst II in the Administrative Division. He joined the Water Department in May, 1958, after several years as an industrial engineer with E. I. DuPont de Nemours and Company. He worked at DuPont's Camden, S. C., and Seaford, Del., plants from 1952 to 1958. Earlier he served in the U. S. Navy (from 1946 to 1948), graduating as an electronics technician from the Naval Research Laboratory at Anacostia.

A graduate of Syracuse University (1952) with a bachelor of science degree in production management. Bob is married and has two children. He lives at 912 Glenroy Road.

*Foreword to 1959 Water Department Annual Report . . .*

# PHILADELPHIA WHIPS A NATIONAL PROBLEM . . . A GROWING SHORTAGE OF WATER FACILITIES

For a number of years the Water Department's annual reports have been stories of far reaching progress. They have told about the rejuvenation of an old water system, the clean up of two rivers, the steady improvement in water quality, and the unceasing betterment of service standards.

This the eighth report (under the new City charter) is no exception to the theme of progress. If anything, its story is even more impressive.

Yet this report will have little meaning unless it is set against the background of what is taking place all over America. Our city does not exist in a vacuum. What it does cannot be measured against its own needs only but must be viewed in a national framework.

The 1959 convention of the American Water Works Association called nation wide attention to a startling fact.

It noted that rising population and expanding industry are overtaxing both water resources and water treatment facilities in many parts of the United States. Of the nation's 18,000 water utilities, 20% are deficient in raw water supply, 40% in transmission mains, 33% in pumping capacity, 40% in treatment capacity, 43% in elevated storage and 29% in ground storage. Only a huge capital program involving expenditure of more than a billion dollars annually for water system improvements can even begin to meet this problem, according to AWWA. The present annual expansion rate is only $600 million.

If to the problem of water supply and facilities be added the closely related problem of protecting streams from pollution, the combined expenditure for water and sewerage systems should be $2.6 billion annually over the next 17 years.

There is nothing new in AWWA's warning. There have been many such alarms in recent years from farsighted statesmen and engineers. The situation worsens in many communities. It is time, it would seem, for a country wide campaign to bring home to our citizens the simple facts, and this campaign the AWWA is now organizing.

In community after community, three basic elements of a good water supply system are missing, either singly or collectively:

1. Adequate water resources to meet present and future needs, without hampering community growth,
2. Adequate facilities (plus community wide cooperation to protect water resources from pollution,
3. Adequate water treatment and distribution facilities.

As any well informed citizen knows, these three elements are closely interwined, and the absence of any one of them can have serious consequences for a community's development. Our national future is tightly bound to the adequacy of the water supply programs our citizens adopt in the next decade.

Philadelphians have already made their decision. In the period 1952-62, they will have spent $123 million for modernization of their water system. For the period 1947-62, they will have invested $213 million in creation of sewage treatment facilities and sewers. Many additional miles of water mains and sewers will have to be built after 1962. Provision for some of these is already in the city's capital program.

Few American cities were in sorer straits than Philadelphia a decade ago. Its two great rivers, which furnished an adequate and unfailing supply of water, were badly polluted with raw sewage and industrial wastes. Its water treatment plants were old, inadequate, and suffered from lack of maintenance funds; much of its water main and sewer network was laid in the last century; many pumping stations were outmoded. The city's water tasted bad on many occasions.

To meet these conditions was difficult, for responsible operating personnel were constantly handicapped by a lack of appropriations. Only with establishment of the sewer rent in 1946 and the eventual establishment of the Water and Sewer Funds as self-sustaining unities in 1953, together with a new governmental and citizen interest, has this situation gradually changed.

The vast programs supported by Philadelphia's citizens have wiped out a large part of the unfortunate past. The Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers are today comparatively clean; dumping of raw sewage and untreated industrial wastes has mostly ended; our city has three new sewage treatment works and is rapidly modernizing all its water treatment facilities; new pumping stations, water mains and sewers have been built. Our water has become pleasantly palatable.

Fortunately Philadelphia has never had a problem of water resources. The two rivers at its doorstep are as bountiful today as they were a decade or two centuries ago. Our problem has been, and will continue to be, to protect these streams and to provide modern, efficient facilities for treating and distributing their life giving waters.

Philadelphia has gone a long way toward this objective, but only an interested citizenry will bring our city the rest of the way. The blessings of such interest will be endless: New inhabitants, new industry, new shipping, new visitors—for water, too, is an element of community strength.

## OUR ANNUAL REPORT

**Fresh off the press is the Water Department's eye catching report covering the dramatic events of 1959 in the water and sewerage systems.**

**The 1959 annual report embraces 52 pages, highlighted with vivid color and 50 photographs. Easily read financial tables are appended to the popularized text.**

**Small portions of the report are reprinted on this page and the page opposite for the information of our busy readers. For those who would enjoy the full flavor of the City's great progress in providing better service for its water and sewer customers, the full report is a must. Copies may be obtained in Room 1103, Annex, or by telephoning LO 8-5950 ext. 10.**

### *Highlights of 1959 Water Department Annual Report . . .*

# WATER DEPARTMENT MOVES INTO ELECTRONICS AS MODERNIZATION PROGRAM SWEEPS FORWARD

The creative surge which has transformed Philadelphia in recent years continued in 1959. Nowhere was this more obvious than in the City's water and sewerage systems.

The year 1959 saw the—

1. *New Torresdale Water Treatment Plant*, largest pushbutton water works of its kind in the country, open its doors after five years of building and the investment of $25 million,
2. *Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant* move steadily forward with a $6 million reconstruction program, which will complete its transformation into Philadelphia's second pushbutton, rapid sand filter plant . . . ready in 1960,
3. *Load Control Center*, the first large scale adaptation in America of electronic and microwave controls to water distribution, move toward an early 1960 completion,
4. *City's New Cycle Billing System* for water and sewer bills move into its final stages of preparation, in time for launching January 1, 1960.
5. *Distribution Network* of water mains and pumping stations undergo further modernization and extension,
6. *Sewage Treatment System* handle a record daily average of 317 million gallons of raw sewage, as the Water Department pressed forward with construction of interceptor sewers to end by 1963 the last dumping of raw sewage into the rivers.

Use of automatic and semi-automatic electronic controls represents an increasing trend in the Water Department's operations. The year 1959 gave new emphasis to this development as Torresdale opened and other automatic installations moved toward completion. One immediate result of this trend, as well as of various intradepartmental reorganizations, was a reduction in the department's personnel. New training programs, tightening of procedures, extensive research projects, and a fuller public relations program accentuated the streamlining. Public interest rose sharply, and thousands of visitors thronged the new Torresdale plant.

The high level of construction maintained by the Water Department for the past few years continued. Actual construction totaled over $23.2 million, while $36.6 million of contracts were in force at the year's end.

The year 1959 underscored a change of creative emphasis in the huge modernization program. While much important work continued in the sewerage system (with the building of 43.5 miles of sewers and a start on the giant Wakeling Street Flood Relief Sewer in the Northeast), the year 1959 belonged above all to the water system. Though dollar expenditures were still roughly equal between the two systems and might continue to be, the water system was beginning to bear fruits which would have a far reaching effect.

These fruits include the Torresdale and the Queen Lane plants, the Load Control Center, and (by 1963) a modernized Belmont treatment plant. Coupled with a continuing modernization and expansion of the distribution network, these facilities will give Philadelphians higher quality water at proper pressures and in adequate quantity.

This shift of emphasis, which has been under way for several years, fits into the department's comprehensive $336 million program for the 1947-62 period, and logically precedes the many additional millions of dollars that must be invested in replacement of old water mains and sewers after 1962.

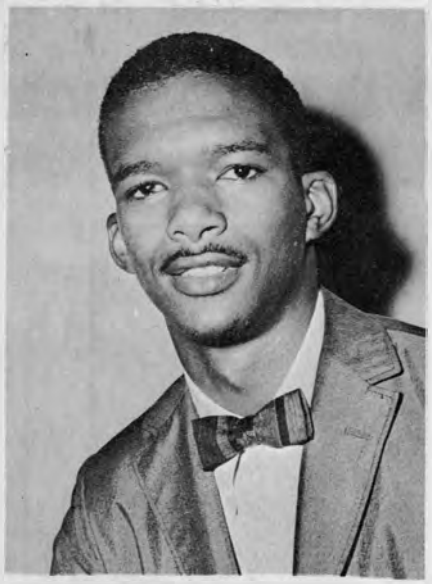
With the opening of three modern sewage treatment works between 1951 and 1955, the near completion of a large network of interceptor sewers to divert raw sewage to these plants, the pressing of a vigorous program for industrial waste control, and the formation of agreements with nearly all communities on Philadelphia's Pennsylvania periphery for the treatment of their sewage in Philadelphia's plants, the Water Department largely accomplished the first necessary step in its program . . . that of reducing the pollution load on the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers. Today, thanks to these measures plus allied Federal and interstate programs, the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers are comparatively clean.

*"Which place d'ya reckon Butch McGonigle went? I'd like to see HIM again."*

With the achievement of these programs, water system improvements have moved inevitably to the foreground. The cleaner river water, indeed, gives added meaning to investments in new water treatment plants and distribution facilities.

Though the emphasis has changed, the purpose of the Water Department's modernization program remains. That purpose is to provide for two million Philadelphians the standards of service which they have the right to expect from a publicly operated utility . . . standards expressed in pure and palatable water, efficient operation, attention to customers' needs, and cleaner rivers. The benefits of this program for health, industry, shipping, recreation and decent living are incalculable.

The year 1959 carried the Water Department even closed to these goals.



WILBERT MITCHELL

## COLLEGE DAYS LURE WILBERT MITCHELL AWAY

Those who say that the machine is mightier than the man never knew Wilbert Mitchell. Wilbert could make the Water Department's duplicating machines respond like an artist's brush on canvas.

No small part of the credit for the improved appearance of the Water Department News belongs to Wilbert, who had just the right touch for getting the best out of machine and plates.

Wilbert, the Water Department's official duplicating equipment operator, is now off for new fields to conquer. He has entered Morgan State College in Baltimore for a four-year course in business administration.

A 1956 commercial graduate of South Philadelphia High School, Wilbert entered the Water Department in the same year. Employed at first on the department's universal metering program, he oversaw the duplicating unit during the past two years. Literally thousands of sheets of paper, covering everything from contract specifications to announcements, passed through Wilbert's hands each week. Without Wilbert the mighty paper stream that flows through all modern organizations would have fallen to a dismal trickle in at least one public agency.

To Wilbert the NEWS extends its sincerest wishes for future success. We don't know what we are going to do without him.

# *Housekeeping Keeps Accidents Away*

One of the most important duties in the work of a supervisor is inspection. It is the follow-up part of his job, the means by which he determines whether his instructions and training efforts are being followed.

Good housekeeping is achieved by good inspection procedures, followed by necessary corrective action to assure the safe performance of all operations.

In addition to the inspection which every supervisor should make in his area, various other inspection techniques have been developed to insure orderly and well-kept operations. Among these is the use of inspection teams concentrating exclusively on housekeeping, unsafe conditions and practices. In some cases, these teams are made up of supervisors from the department being inspected. Such inspections also vary in that some may be scheduled while others may be carried out without notice.

Bad housekeeping makes for trouble anywhere.

But bad housekeeping around a work place is double-trouble--it makes for both inefficiency and accidents.

Every kind of mess, everything out of place is a hazard.

Once you get the habit of keeping your own work place in order, you'll find that the good housekeeping you're doing for safety's sake will pay you dividends in pleasanter, lighter, faster work.

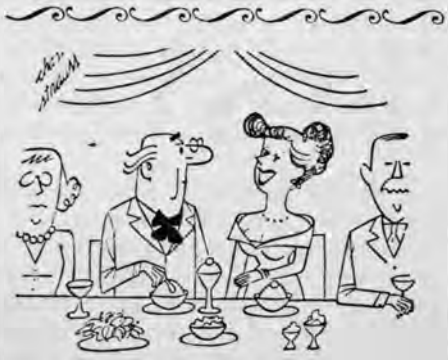
And it will do something for your morale, too. A man whose work is done smoothly and neatly gets a real lift out of it.

But these are just the extra advantages. The real reason for good housekeeping is to protect yourself and your shop neighbors from costly, painful, crippling accidents.

It is important that all inspections be handled in a constructive manner, that the supervisor understands the purpose is to help and not belittle his efforts. Accepted in that spirit, they cannot fail to result in tidy, shipshape operations, with good production achievements and creditable safety records.

--*Safety News Bulletin*
Charleston Group
Companies
Columbia Gas System

A youthful figure is something that you get when you ask a woman her age.



WALL STREET JOURNAL

"But how perfectly thrilling, Senator, to have been defeated by such an overwhelming majority."

## MAYOR GUEST OF HONOR AT QUEEN LANE OPENING

Mayor Richardson Dilworth officiated at the opening of the new Queen Lane filter plant on Thursday, August 29, at 10:30 A.M.

The guest list included several hundred City officials, engineers, civic leaders, and persons prominent in the water works field. The program in brief: Flag raising, dedication, guided tour and picnic lunch.

The $5.5 million semi-automatic plant took four and one-half years to build. It will have a rated daily capacity of 120 million gallons of water and will be able to handle peak loads of 150 million gallons.

**WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS**
Published Monthly By
THE WATER DEPARTMENT

Commissioner ..... Samuel S. Baxter
Editor ..... Raymond J. Harris
Editorial Assistant ..... Mary Wolicki
Art ..... Henry Cheatham
James Gaskin
Printing ..... Duplicating Staff


PHILADELPHIA, PA. NOVEMBER, 1960

## ANYONE FOR BASKETBALL? A TEAM'S IN THE BASKET

No one can say that the Employees' Recreation Association is not trying to give its members that wholesome, healthy look.

The association will soon place a team in the newly created, city-wide Basketball Cooperative Industrial League.

Eleven basketball enthusiasts have already signed up for the team, and the association is seeking more. Edward Milburn, of the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, has been named acting business manager.

As proof that it is in earnest about the new team, the association's board of directors has voted $150 for basketball equipment. During the coming season, games will be played on Tuesday evening, and one other evening each week.

Would-be players should contact Ed Milburn at—
aut. 1721 or CU8-8013.

# UNITED FUND FIGHTS TO FILL GROWING GAP IN AID TO NEEDY

### WATER GIVERS RALLY TO UNITED FUND DRIVE

That the needs of the community matter to Water Department employees is shown by the growing success of the United Fund campaign in the department. By the beginning of November, our employees raised $20,000. A number of units exceeded their unit goals.

A great challenge remains: 100% participation by Water employees. To date 90% have contributed. Employees who have not yet participated still have time. The deadline is November 22.

The strong pride which City employees feel in the new Philadelphia is being put to the test again this year.

The United Fund is waging its annual fund raising drive on behalf of 250 agencies which serve the aged, the feeble, the medically needy, the handicapped and the very young.

In recent years City Employees have given increasing support to the United Fund's efforts to care for the community's most important resource —its people.

This support has been in line with the forward looking philosophy which the City government itself has been pursuing in the fields of recreation, public health, welfare services, and youth guidance. The essence of this philosophy is a feeling of responsibility for others.

The need in the community, unfortunately, is great, and no combination of federal, state or municipal governmental services could begin to meet it. Much of the gap must be filled by the hard working private agencies, which must rely on the generosity of private citizens. Money and still more money is needed to provide decent care for the less fortunate.

**Thousands Lack Service**

Typical of this need is the fact that—

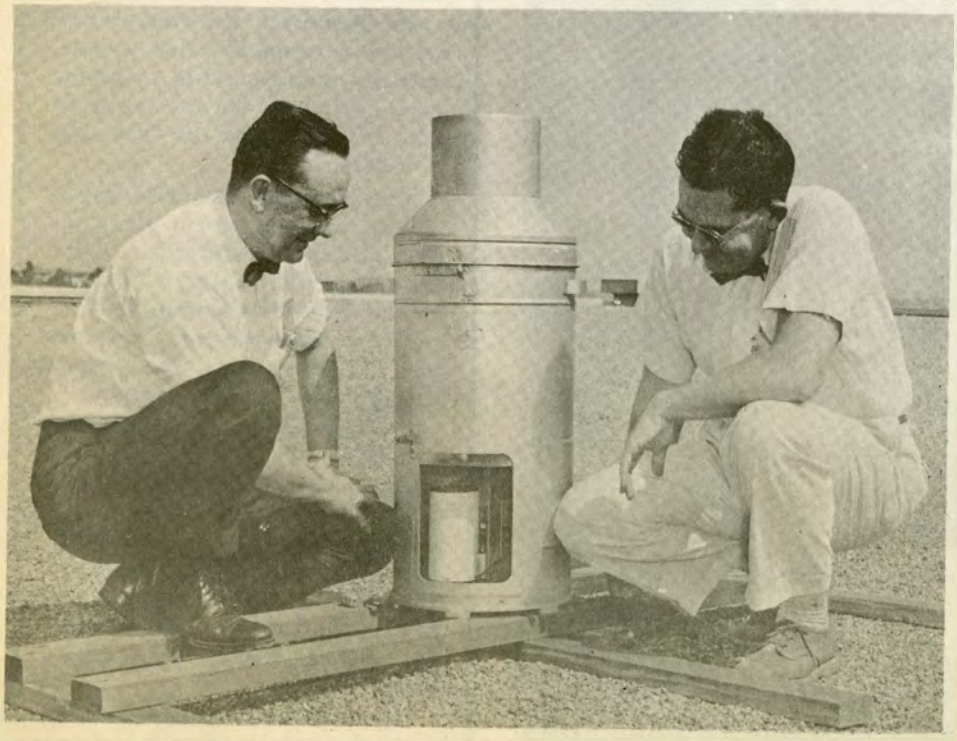
1. Nearly 2,000 persons cannot get family counseling services, while others with more serious problems must wait up to three months;

2. Drastic curtailment of services continue in youth agencies affecting more than 25,000 boys and girls;

3. Mental health clinics, despite ever growing demands for service, must pare programs, while waiting lists grow;

4. Nursing service has been eliminated for more than 1,000 needy persons;

5. Agencies combating juvenile delinquency are seriously handicapped. *(Continued on Page 8)*



THAT IS NOT A MILK CAN which Joseph V. Radziul, research and development engineer, and Prof. M. Joseph Willis, of Swarthmore College, are examining so intently on the roof of Northeast High School. It's a rain gauge—one of several belonging to the Water Department—and behind it all is quite a story. SEE STORY ON PAGE 5.

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Published Monthly By**
**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

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**Editorial Assistant** ..... Mary Wolicki
**Art** ..... Henry Cheatham
James Gaskin
**Printing** ..... Michael Lario & Arthuretta Bailey

| DIVISION | REPORTER |
|---|---|
| Administrative | Rosemary Rosenthal |
| Construction | Mary A. Shea |
| Customer Service | Lillian Greenfield |
| Design (Distribution) | Frank Clyde |
| Design (Electrical) | Louis B. Sklar |
| Design (Hydraulic) | John Mirkil |
| Design (Main Sewers) | Mario G. Celoni |
| Design (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
| Design (Specifications) | Joseph Mair |
| Design (Structural) | Morris Siegel |
| Distribution | George Braden |
| Garage (Logan Street) | Robert Runkle, Jr. |
| Mechanical Engineering | Harry Myers |
| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo |
| | Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | James Marinan |
| Schuylkill Division | |
| Pumping— | Vacant |
| Delaware Division | Shirley Henry |
| Southeast Works | Robert Jones |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Main Records | Edward Migliaccio |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Joseph Watson |


The most successful man is the man who holds onto the old just as long as it is good, and grabs the new just as soon as it is better.

# *Letters to the Editor*

DEAR EDITOR:

I don't know whether you are in the habit of printing letters from your readers, but my eye was caught by an article in the August issue of the Water Department News about the custom in medieval days of the whole family and their guests bathing together in one large tub.

This is a custom which is still practiced today in many parts of the Far East, notably Japan and Korea, and I can assure you that it is a most enjoyable one. Cold beer never tastes better than when drunk while sitting in a scalding hot tub, surrounded by your friends and having your back scrubbed by an attractive young woman.

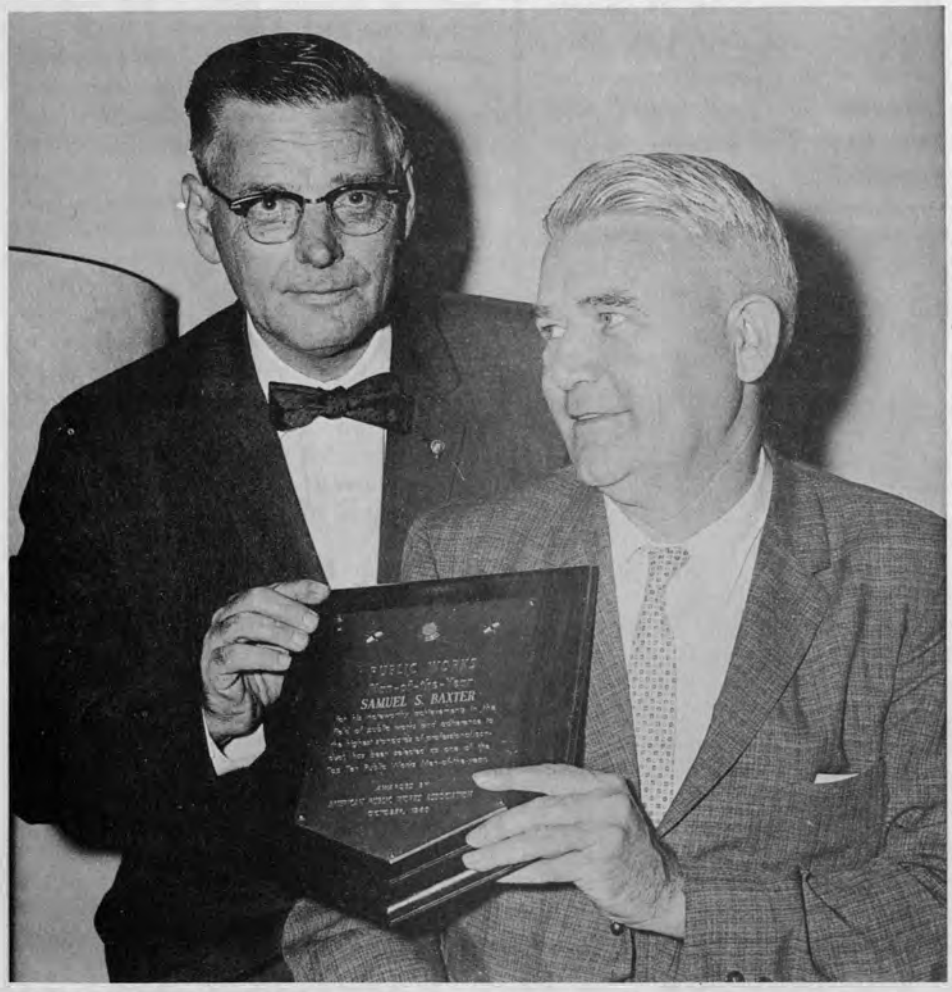
Lest you jump to the obvious conclusion, I must point out that these communal baths are models of decorum. The bath house, or bath room, is not the place for hanky panky.

The bath tub, in Japan, comes in all sizes, ranging from an individual wooden tub to a small swimming pool. Strictly speaking, it is not an instrument for keeping clean—if you want to soap up, you rinse before you get into the tub so you won't mess up the water for everyone else. And the water is kept hot enough so that you needn't worry about picking up infections. Hot water outside and hot *sake* inside are the best antiseptic measures I have yet run across.

No, the bath in Japan is the place to go when you want to relax, to converse, or to think. Archimedes discovered a basic principle of physics while sitting in his tub, and who can say whether the attack on Pearl Harbor was not worked out with toy battleships by a couple of Japanese admirals sitting in their bath?

Very truly yours,

VICTOR KENDRICK,
*Tokyo Onsen, '53*




**ON THE RECEIVING END of this award is Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter (right), who was chosen one of the "Ten Top Public Works Men of the Year" by the American Public Works Association. Albert H. Wilson, president of Kiwanis International Club of Philadelphia, presents plaque.**

## *READERS! PLEASE WRITE TO YE POOR OLDE EDITOR*

The NEWS is glad to print the interesting letter from Mr. Kendrick, who is a former foreign correspondent and presently an information officer in the Office of the City Representative.

Mr. Kendrick has thoughtfully drawn upon his rich experience to open our eyes to better ways of living. We are going to take his advice at the first sign of a cold.

Mr. Kendrick has also given us the courage to do what we have been planning for some time—namely, to start a "Letters to the Editor" column. In fact we were only waiting for someone like him to set the proper literary tone for the column.

We invite our readers to send us letters. They need not deal with the virtues of hot water and hot *sake*, but may cover any matter of general interest (subject to the tolerant red pencil of the editor). Questions too are invited, and we shall do our best to answer them, or artfully dodge them.

All fooling aside, why not help to make your newspaper more entertaining?

THE EDITOR

## NE-DELAWARE TEAM WINS DEPARTMENT CHAMPIONSHIP

The new Water Department softball league has ended its first season.

Victor in the hard fought battles among six departmental teams is Northeast-Delaware, which represents the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works and the Delaware Pumping Division.

The winning team was co-captained by Edward Milburn and Henry Kalinoski.

Leading the league through most of the season, Northeast-Delaware was hard pressed by the City Hall Annex and Schuylkill Division teams; the latter, however, never quite stopped the hard hitting combination. Northeast-Delaware got excellent pitching from Walter Ayers, good clutch playing from Hank Kalinoski, and timely hitting from Jim Brady. Its players as a group provided good defensive play. During the season, Northeast-Delaware won 12 games and lost only three.

A trophy has been presented to the champs.

—•—

*If you systematically save a part of your salary every week for ten years, at the end of that time you'll be an exception.*

**HENRY F. KALINOSKI (left) AND EDWARD MILBURN, co-captains of the winning Northeast-Delaware Softball Team, hold trophy symbolizing departmental championship. Northeast-Delaware defeated five other teams.**

## PENN GIVES COURSE CERTIFICATES TO 200 CITY WORKERS (10 WATER)

The keen interest of Philadelphia's City employees in self-improvement was evident recently when more than 200 received certificates or plaques from the Fels Institute of Local and State Government.

The awards, made annually, mark the successful completion of courses in governmental administration offered by the institute. They represent a wide range of subjects from administrative objectives to city planning, and from political theory to public finance.

Among students making the grade this year were 10 Water Department employees. Heading the group was George W. Carpenter, sanitary engineer at the Southwest Sewage Treatment Works, who won a plaque for completion of a five-course program.

The presentations were made at a dinner well attended by leading state and municipal personalities. The Hon. Gerald F. Flood, judge of the Court of Common Pleas, delivered the principal address.

Certificates for completion of single courses went to the following Water Department employees: John A. Dillener, superintendent of the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; Joseph Goldberger, personnel assistant; Hilton C. James, field inspector in the Construction Branch; Richard D. Pinder, chemist at the Belmont Laboratory; Robert F. Walker, chief of customer service; Ernest L. Ferrero, civil engineer in the Construction Branch; William J. Flynn, Jr., mechanical engineer in the Construction Branch; Myron C. Reiner, engineering aide in the Design Branch; and Morris J. Siegel, civil engineer in Design.

## BARGAIN TICKETS GO

One hundred and forty-three sets of reduced price season tickets to home games of the Philadelphia Eagles football team were sold by the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association to its members recently.

John J. Irwin, chairman of the ticket services committee of the association handled the sale.

**KEEP UP OUR CITY'S**

**PROGRESS**

**VOTE "YES"**

**FOR THE**

**IMPROVEMENT LOANS**

**November 8**

# PROMOTIONS

Twenty-two employeees were advanced to higher jobs during the past two months.

They include:

George R. Pringle and Perly Bargnare, from laborer to semi-skilled laborer, Sewer Maintenance; William J. Ricciardi, from stockhandler to semi-skilled laborer, Building Maintenance; Fred H. Horlacher and James Saunders, III, from engineering aide I to II, Design.

Rinaldo B. Luciani, from civil engineer I to II, Design; Joseph Lalli, from public works inspector I to II, Construction; Raymond Royds, from pumping station mechanic (electrical) to pumping station mechanic foreman, Schuylkill Division Pumping; Arthur Bartlett, from chemist I to II, Quality Control; John P. Baynard, from civil engineer I to II, Construction.

William J. Ehmann, from maintenance mechanic I to pumping station mechanic, Delaware Division Pumping; Isaiah Jackson, from filter plant mechanic I to II, Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; William Schweikert, from filter plant mechanic I to II, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; James D. Smith, from laborer to sewer crawler, Sewer Maintenance; Louis Sauls, from custodial worker I to II, Queen Lane plant; Norman White, from custodial worker I to water distribution repairman trainee, Distribution.

William Golderer, from machinist to machinist foreman, Plant Maintenance; Alexander Tatarskyj, from electrical engineer I to electrical engineer II, Design; John Craney, from field inspector I to field representative (water service), Customer Service; Michael Lario, from status clerk to duplicating equipment operator, General Administration; Ronald Brown, from filter plant mechanic helper to water meter repairman I, Meter Shop; Alfred R. Cardano, from electrical technician I to electrical technician II, Load Control Center.

**You can't push anyone up a ladder unless he is willing to climb a little.—Andrew Carnegie.**

# RECREATION GROUP DRIVES FOR INCREASED MEMBERSHIP

MORRIS F. PIROLLI

## NAME MORRIS PIROLLI NEW ALL-STAR MANAGER

Morris F. Pirolli, Equipment Operator II, Distribution Section has been appointed as the new manager of the Water Department All-Stars for the coming season. James J. Marinan, Load Control Dispatcher has also been appointed as Mr. Pirolli's coach.

Both Pirolli and Marinan formerly played with the All-Stars. Morris was a coach with the team in 1959.

Edward Milburn, Northeast Sewage Treatment Plant, will continue as business manager of the team for the second consecutive season.

## TRANSFERS

Harold M. Jones, a clerk at the Roxborough Water Treatment Plant, has resigned to accept a position as a parking meter coin collector in the Department of Collections.

Hilton James, a field inspector for the Construction Branch, has moved to the Department of Public Health as an investigator in the Medical Examiner's Office.

"Every employee a member" is the goal of the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association.

The association's annual membership drive will soon be in full gear. With 789 employees, or about 48% of department personnel, on its rolls, the organization is seeking to spread its benefits to an even larger clientele.

Devoted to promotion of desirable recreational activities among Water Department workers, the self-ruling association is supported entirely from membership dues. The dues are one dollar per member.

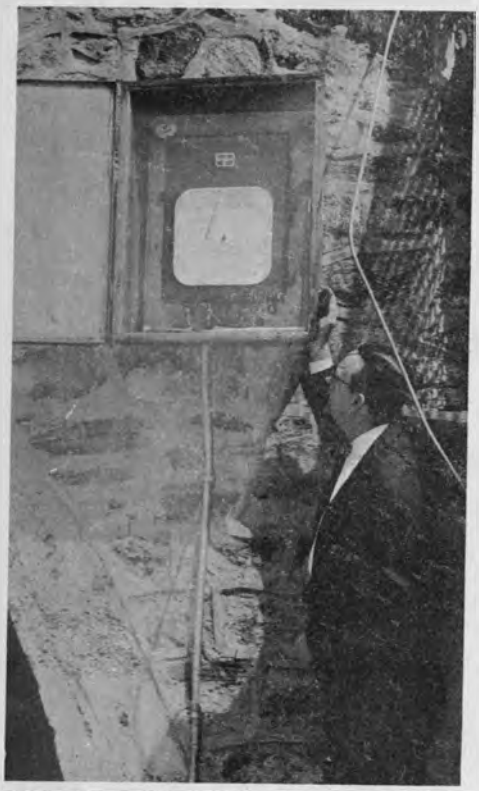
The current drive follows the most fruitful year in the young association's history. Formed in May, 1958, the group has offered its members a wide range of activities. In the past few months these have included reduced tickets to Ben Hur, Can Can, the Camden Music Circus, the Ice Follies, and Philadelphia Eagles games; sponsoring of a champion softball team in the Industrial Cooperative League; formation of an intra-department softball team, a bowling league, and a chess team; arrangement of trips abroad at special rates; a photography contest; golf tournaments; and now a basketball team.

Other activities will be added in the future.

The membership drive is being coordinated by a six-man committee headed by Erwin Baskin, of the Plant Maintenance Section. Others on the committee are Melvin Banks, Accounting; Nicholas Menna, Sewer Maintenance; Kenneth Zitomer, Construction; Peter Crescitelli, Schuylkill Pumps; and Azad Attarian, Water Operations.

The Recreation Association Board of Directors has invited the following to serve as advisors to the committee: B. Barney Palmer, administrative services director; Vincent Hughes, acting head of Construction; Abraham Finkelstein, chief of Design; Charles Vickerman, assistant chief of Water Operations; and Elwood Bean, chief of water treatment.

New members will have membership rights extending from the date of joining to December 31, 1961. The Board of Directors is composed of representatives from all the major divisions and units of the department.



**DEPTH OF FLOW GAUGE** at sewer outfall in Northeast is inspected by Joseph V. Radziul. The gauge is synchronized with rain gauges in same area, making possible storm flow studies.

# NO MATTER HOW FOUL THE WEATHER— STORM FLOW RESEARCHERS ARE HAPPY

Some souls can never see the silver lining in that dark cloud overhead.

But for real smiles on a nasty rainswept afternoon, you should peer into Room 1116 in the Annex. There is the headquarters of the Water Department Research and Development Unit . . . an outfit that really grins when it rains.

There is a good reason why the engineers in 1116 pray for a devilishly mean rainstorm. It's simply because they won't have to wait until next year for one.

Joseph V. Radziul, research and development engineer, "explains" it this way.

Within the past year, the department has placed a half-dozen rain gauges at various points in the Northeast. Shaped like huge milk cans, the gauges perch on top of schools and the Naval Aviation Supply Depot.

"We are making a special study," says Joe, "of storm flow in the Northeast so that we can design better sewers in the future. Obviously we can't tell what we are really up against unless we have an honest to goodness storm."

With the valuable collaboration of Prof. M. Joseph Willis, of Swarthmore College, who is serving as a department consultant, Joe has been carrying on his study for two years and believes that another two or three years will be needed to complete it. Data collected is used for reviewing design criteria that shape storm drainage facilities.

The rain gauges, which are checked weekly, are intricate devices, according to Joe. Their readings are recorded automatically on a chart, which shows the day and hour as well as the amount of rainfall. The eight-day clocks in the gauges are synchronized with "depth-of-flow" gauges located in the outfalls of sewers. Thus it is possible to determine what the run-off was at the time a given amount of rain fell.

Since the Northeast is constantly growing and many branch sewers are still to be built (and older sewers reconstructed), it is expected that these studies will prove of great value in preventing future flooding of residential and business areas.

The department is presently exchanging information with the U. S. Weather Bureau, which maintains a lone gauge at International Airport. The department began its program because the airport gauge was of little help in determining storm characteristics for the Northeast.

EDITORIAL NOTE: *Joe and his coworkers were very unhappy because this summer there wasn't a storm you could take your hat off too (as if anyone would) . . . but then along came "Donna." We hope they are satisfied.*

## OPERATORS' LICENSES

Two year Operators' Licenses will be issued by Pennsylvania for 1961-62 at a fee of $4, according to the American Automobile Association. A new feature of the renewal application for driver's licenses will be a request for the operator's date of birth. This information must be provided or the application will be returned. The State wants this information, the AAA said, because a staggered license renewal system is under consideration.

Another new feature on the Operator's License will be the use of a date in the lower right corner which indicates the month and year in which the individual passed the physical examination. This date will continue to appear on his license from year to year.

*"Henry! My cake will fall!"*

## DOROTHY KUTYS LEADS WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Dorothy Kutys, Personnel Office manager, will represent the department's women on the Employees' Recreation Association development committee.

The association president, Ervin L. Davis, said that Mrs. Kutys' job will be to contact women employees to find out what recreational activities interest them. The association is now considering the formation of a women's bowling league as one among several such activities.

Mrs. Kutys has been employed by the department for four and one-half years.

## COMPENSATORY LEAVE

The Personnel Office calls attention to the following.

Employees departing from the City service (by virtue of retirement, resignation or any other reason) must use all compensatory leave at least 14 days before separation. Compensatory time which is not used before the cut-off date will be cancelled without compensation.

Compensatory time earned in 1959 in lieu of Independence or Memorial Day must be utilized before the end of 1960, or it will be cancelled.

# PERSONNEL CHAT

**By Ervin L. Davis**
**Personnel Officer**

What part does the personnel section play in the Water Department? What are its responsibilities, and, where does it fit into the Water Department's organization? This article is necessary because the personnel function is probably the best known, but unfortunately, least understood, function in the department.

The personnel section is one part of the Administrative Division. The Administrative Division, along with the Water Operations Division, the Sewerage Operations Division, and the Engineering Division, compose the four major divisions in the Water Department.

The responsibilities of the personnel section can be divided into three major functions: Service, Advisory, and Control.

*Service*—Service is given to management and supervisors at all levels and in all divisions, to all employees and some other departments and agencies. Service is even provided to relatives of our employees in matters such as pension benefits. Examples include, hiring new employees, processing promotions, pay increases, maintaining attendance records, preparing job descriptions, counselling, directing a recreation program, suggestion award program, and maintaining complete records of all employees. There are many others, but space does not permit a full listing.

*Advisory*—The personnel section advises management and supervisors at their request concerning personnel problems which range from questions on civil service regulations, personnel procedures, and proposed changes in organization, to union-management relations.

Briefly, it is our job to provide advice and assistance, where requested, to management and supervisors so that they may make sound and fair decisions. Our advisory function extends to all employees. Many employees are referred by their supervisors to the personnel section for advice and assistance. Often employees will request advice on personnel matters which have only an indirect bearing on their work.

*Control*—Control has a harsh sound. But in every organization control is necessary. Sick leave abuse, some aspects of disciplinary actions, demotions, reductions in force, etc., are the responsibility of the personnel section. Unfortunately, not all personnel matters are pleasant, but they must be accomplished in order for the greater good of the Water Department and the public it serves.

Service, advice and control are not always clear-cut. Often a single problem may require service and advice, or service and control, or all three!

In this brief article it is not possible to go into detail about any one activity or program.

It might be interesting to know that the personnel section is involved in twenty-six (26) different activities and/or programs. In addition, we feel a strong obligation to anyone of our 1,640 employees.

All of the functions, programs and activities are the carrying out of the two goals of the personnel section. They are (1) the carrying out of a personnel program for the Water Department in order to provide effective and efficient service to our customers—the public, and (2) making the Water Department a fine place to work, and to establish a career.

**FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY** came water pollution experts to Philadelphia during the first week of October, and naturally they took time out from a busy convention to visit the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works. Ralph Hoot, chief of sewage treatment (second from right front), conducts tour.

# DEPARTMENT SETS RECORD FOR THRILL SHOW SUPPORT

Water Department employees turned out in force for a good cause this year. They bought $519 of tickets for the annual thrill show, which supports the Hero Scholarship Fund. This was more than three times what they spent in 1959.

While all departmental units met their ticket quotas, the Design Branch, the Belmont Water Treatment Plant, and the three sewage treatment works went way over the top.

# WATER GETS 57 NEW WORKERS BUT ROLLS CONTINUE DECLINE

Many new energies have been flowing into the Water Department lately. Fifty-seven employees joined the department during the last three months.

The new workers, who were appointed as a result of civil service tests, are filling vacancies created by numerous retirements and promotions. They include laboring, skilled, clerical and professional categories.

Up to October 1 this year the department had appointed 122 permanent new employees, retired 67 older workers (many under mandatory provisions), accepted 69 resignations from permanent personnel, and promoted 101 others. The department's strength stood at 1,609, well below the 1,659 on the rolls one year earlier.

The latest appointees include:

Ernest Myers, security officer I, Distribution; Oliver Fisher, clerk I, Distribution; Anne P. Dodelin, chemist I, Belmont Laboratory; Carole Threadgill, clerk-typist II, Central Stores Depot; Bernard Boyd, custodial worker I, Roxborough plant; Raydell Cox, clerk messenger, Design; Richard A. Green, laborer, Sewer Maintenance; Marian B. King, clerk I, Customer Service.

### Donald Supplee

Donald Supplee, custodial worker I, Northeast Sewage Works; Emma Wright, key punch operator I, General Administration; Nathaniel Holliman, Jr., Franklin Johnson, and Thomas Yarborough, laborers in Sewer Maintenance; Aggienora V. Harrison, clerk I, General Administration; Robert S. Hall and Andrew R. Banta, graduate engineers in Design.

Larry T. Brinson, custodial worker I, Building Maintenance; Thomas L. Jackson, engineering aide I, Construction; Mary L. Perry, clerk-typist I, Distribution; B. J. Johnson, clerk-typist I, Design; Andrew M. Draganoski, oiler, Fairhill Pumping Station; Nicholas Manerchia and Earl A. Morris, field inspectors I in Customer Service; John Royster, William A. Walker, Charles Parks and Jesse Smith, water distribution repairman trainees, Distribution.

Jacob Tranotti, chemist I, Testing Laboratorp; Zed T. Black, Laborer, Northeast Sewage Works; Carl Gray, clerk I, Meter Shop; Carolyn A. Smith, clerk-typist I, Sewer Maintenance; Vincent St. Stockmal, machinist, Plant Maintenance; Robert Smith, Jr., clerk-typist, Roxborough Water Treatment Plant.

### Clyde White

Clyde White and Henry H. Whitehead, engineering aides II, Construction; Peggy Ann Jubilee, clerk stenographer I, Design; Vivian P. Parker, clerk I, Meter Shop; Edward Graves, chemist I, Northeast Sewage; Ernest Ridley, laborer, Southeast Sewage; Edward Daly, electrician, Queen Lane Filters; Calvin Johnson and Ronald Knight, laborers, Northeast Sewage.

Joseph McCaffrey, electrician, Queen Lane Pumping Station; John A. Malone, stockhandler, Central Stores; William Bennett, custodial worker I, Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; Dorothy L. Bess, clerk-typist I, Torresdale Pumping Station; Guido Brunelli, electrical technician I, Load Control Center; Carol DeCosta,, clerk stenographer II, Testing Laboratory; Walter McClellan, electrical technician I, Load Control Center; Willie Russell, laborer, Sewer Maintenance; Samuel Palmer and John Sims, laborers, Belmont Filters; Randolph Paige, laborer, Southwest Sewage.

## DESIGN MEN SHOW ZIP IN SEWER HOLE CRISIS

That design engineers are men of action was reemphasized a short time ago.

It was a Wednesday afternoon . . . 3:30 P.M. . . . when a sewer wellhole collapsed at 27th and Ellsworth Streets. The wellhole was one of two at a point where two small sewers joined a seven and one-half foot diameter main sewer.

Within minutes, Ed Bastian, chief of sewerage operations, and Chris Lidle, supervisor of the branch sewers unit in the Design Branch, were on the scene. While they were making a survey, Chris's unit back at the office dug into basic information for a rebuilding plan. The plan was already started when Chris returned to the office, and by Friday all plans had been drafted and specifications written for rebuilding both wellholes to a depth of 30 feet.

The men of action included Mario Celoni, Al Strauss, Joe Mair, Gene Zanier, Bud King and Herb Korhan. For them, as well as for other members of the Design Branch, it was just a normal day.

## MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER CAPTURE MAGAZINE COVER

Two leading Philadelphians grace the colorful cover of the October issue of "The American City" magazine. Standing against a charming backdrop formed by one of Philadelphia's earliest water works (now the City aquarium) are Mayor Richardson Dilworth and Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter. The two occupy more cover space than American City usually allows to mere humans, since it favors structures of steel or concrete as dominant subjects.

The "excuse" for the picture is underwritten by several stories on Philadelphia's municipal reform, particularly in promoting cleaner streams and better water service. There is a lively biographical sketch of Dilworth and Baxter, with emphasis on their roles in the local rebirth; a lengthy article on the Torresdale water treatment plant, America's largest push-button water works; and information on sewage treatment pacts which Philadelphia has reached with neighboring communities to protect the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers.

The magazine, by the way, came out while the Water Pollution Control Federation had its convention in Philadelphia (the largest in its history) Oct. 2-6. The federation consists of experts on the protection of streams (sewage works engineers, scientists, and equipment manufacturers). It was an appropriate time to point up Philadelphia's role in protecting its water resources.

Of the Mayor and the Commissioner, the magazine says that "they demonstrate by their deeds how the nation today is developing."

*"You know I can't go home to mother. She doesn't have television."*

## PERSONAL NOTES

### *Design*

The Kennedys, Patrick and wife Margaret, spent the last two weeks of July pleasantly gypsying through Canada and the Great Lakes region to Muskegon, Mich., where they spent several days with Pat's sister.

Ben Strudwick believes in planned vacations. So this year he planned it real good. The first five days of his vacation he was painting the outside of the house at night time, he painted the inside of the house. On Saturday and Sundays he had two delightful days of unplanned rest and sleep.

Ernest Hatton and wife Anna, spent two weeks upstate on a farm. One of Ernie's achievements while on vacation was repairing the roof on his mother's farm-house.

Chris Lidle's recent vacation trip to Canada took him through all its provinces. He covered seven thousand miles of country which he claims to be the most beautiful, that he has ever seen.

We've had several visits from our retired members. Mrs. M. Zellner and Mr. Steven Zeigler drop in occasionally to tell us how things are coming along. They are in the best of health and certainly look wonderful.

### *Administration*

Monday, August 22 was a very exciting day for Rose Sheridan, Deputy Commissioner Barofsky's secretary. Rose's younger boy, Bobby, 14 years old—has been an avid baseball player for many years and presently is with the Hunting Park League—a form of Little Leaguer. For the past year he has been first baseman with the Apaches—is a southpaw—and two years ago won a trophy for most outstanding player and last year was voted most valuable player. The Apaches have such an impressive record that the whole team was personally presented to Mayor Dilworth on the 22nd, just outside of City Hall with TV cameras recording the whole event.

### *Distribution*

The employees of the Distribution Division extend their condolences to Mr. R. A. Supplee and his family upon the sudden death on September 17, 1960 of his wife Margaret.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of the late T. Waters who died suddenly on September 14, 1960.

SAMUEL SCHWARTZ

## TIME OUT FOR A BIT OF THOUGHT

*Suggest*

**IMPROVEMENTS**

A single idea of **YOURS** could bring **YOU** as much as

**$750**

An initial award of $500 + plus A grand award of $250

## SCHWARTZ AND GILBERT WIN SUGGESTION AWARDS

The cash register rang recently for two Water Department "idea" men. Samuel Schwartz, assistant to the Commissioner, collected $100 for a cycle billing teaching aid, while George W. Gilbert, supervisor in the Distribution Section, won $25 for an equipment starting technique.

Both men were honored as part of the City's cash awards system covering suggestions that save the municipality money, improve operations, or advance the welfare of the public service.

Mr. Schwartz invented the "cycleviewer," a slide rule like device that makes explanation of the City's new billing system for water and sewer service much easier. The cycleviewer has been used in training Water and Collections Department interviewers, as well as in explaining the new billing practice to the public. Mr. Gilbert suggested the use of extra batteries and battery booster cables for starting equipment which has stalled.

## CHESS CLUB ENTERS CITY WIDE MATCHES

The Water Department's Chess Club will clash with various other clubs in the Philadelphia Chess Association during the next few months. At stake is the chess championship of Philadelphia.

The department took on the Franklin-Mercantile chess team on October 21. It will play other chess clubs as follows:

November 18, American Legion Post 396; December 2, Greater Northeast; December 16, Germantown "Y"; January 9, American Legion Post 388; January 28, ESP (State Correctional Institution); February 8, Marple-Newtown; February 24, Pawn; March 10, University of Pennsylvania; March 24, Ukrainian-American.

The grapevine reports that our team is in top shape.

**United Fund** *(Continued from Page 1)*

What the 250 United Fund groups could do with adequate funds is indicated by the fact that they include 50 community health agencies aiding more than 700,000 persons; 41 child care and family services meeting the needs of 11,000 children and 32,000 families; 72 youth agencies serving 252,000 boys and girls; 47 neighborhood services and centers serving 100,000 through settlement houses, recreation, arts and crafts programs; 31 specialized agencies helping 50,000 aged, handicapped and other persons; and 11 community planning, research and coordinating organizations serving the entire metropolitan area.

The United Fund drive will run to November 22. City employees can arrange to have as little as fifty cents deducted from successive pay checks for a limited number of weeks. If past experience means anything, many employees will go far beyond this.

# 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

**Published Monthly By**
**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

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| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | Irwin Baskin |
| Pumping—Schuylkill Division | Louis Soloman |
| Delaware Division | Shirley Henry |
| Southeast Works | Vacant |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Main Records | Vacant |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


*"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.

# 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.*

# 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.**

**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.**


# 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.

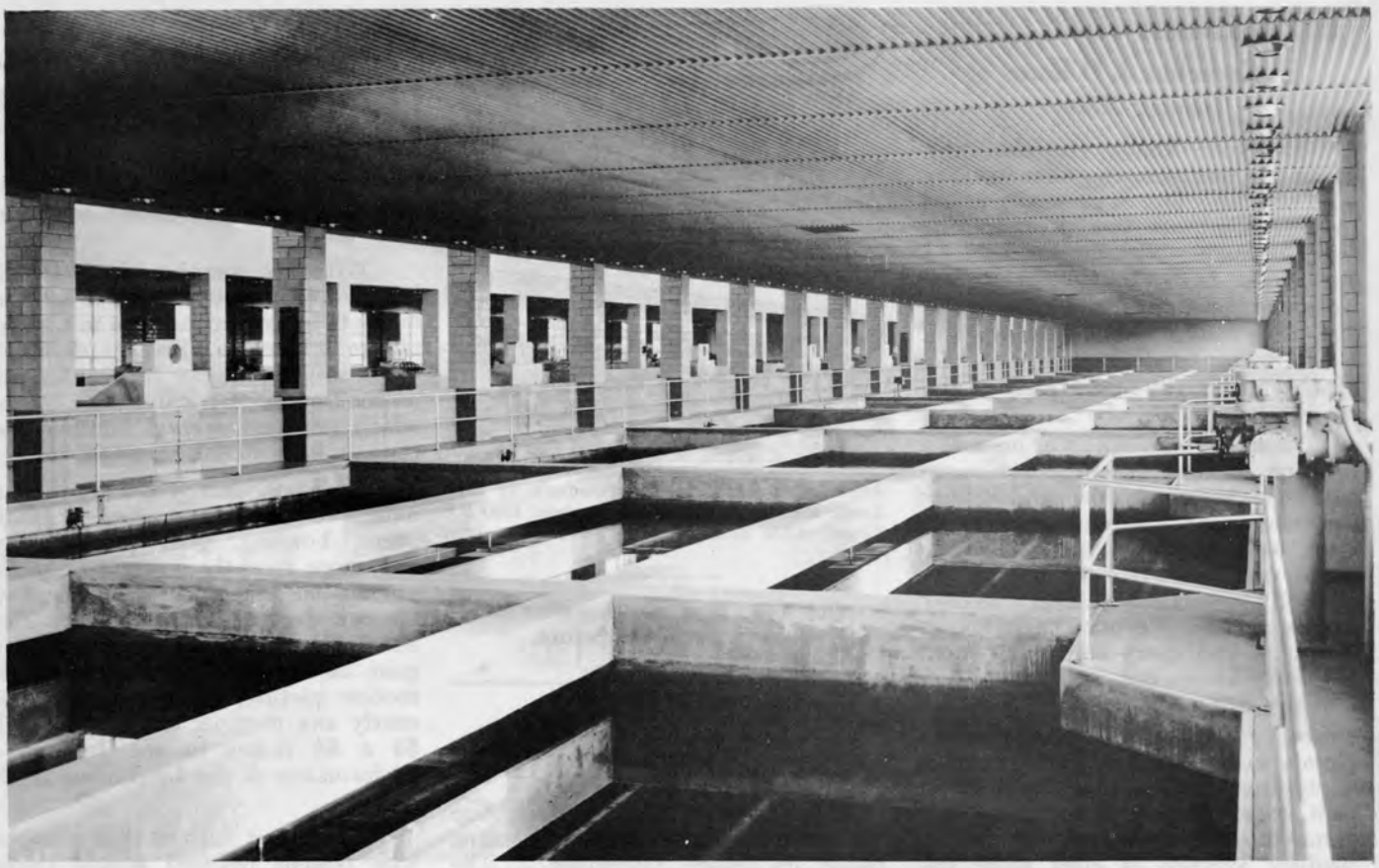
Automatic instruments stood guard over the Delaware River, reporting hour by hour on pollution, temperature, salinity and other important river conditions. The instruments were analyzing the river automatically and recording findings continuously on charts. Never before had instruments been used on this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



**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 cleraly 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 wecome. 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 question, 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.

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.

# 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 examed 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 Elease 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. Elease, 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 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 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.

GENE ZANIER

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, 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***


PHILADELPHIA, PA. FEBRUARY 1961

## NAME NAVY CAPTAIN CONSTRUCTION CHIEF

U. S. Navy Captain Samuel K. Wilson has been named chief of construction for the Water Department.

Captain Wilson, who has retired from the Navy after more than 20 years of service, steps into the position vacated by Richard deCharms on his retirement last spring.

A native of Pennsylvania, Captain Wilson entered the U. S. Navy in 1939 as an assistant civil engineer and rose steadily. He became commanding officer of the public works center at the U. S. Naval Base, Subic Bay, Philippine Islands, in 1955. In July, 1958, he took over as deputy district public works officer and deputy officer in charge of construction for the 5th Naval District, with headquarters at Norfolk, Va.

Captain Wilson served through the Second World War in various construction capacities at Key West, Fla., Linden and Trenton, N. J., Middle River, Md., and Norfolk. After the war, he was sent to Guam to oversee advance planning for naval bases and facilities in the Marianas. From 1949 to 1951, he was public works officer at China Lake, Cal., and later was attached to the staff commander of the U. S. Atlantic Fleet's air arm.

A graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology with the degree of bachelor of architecture, he studied civil engineering at Lehigh University for two years. He is a registered professional architect as well as registered civil engineer.

For a number of years after graduation, Captain Wilson did architectural engineering for private firms, and was employed by the Pennsylvania Department of Highways.

During his navy service, he maintained official residence in Harrisburg.

# NORTHWEST WATER PLAN SHAPING FAST AS NEW PUMPING STATION NEARS FINISH

**DRINKS ON THE HOUSE at the water Department's busy water cooler . . . Philadelphia Home Show. See other photo, page 8.**

## TRAINING SCHOOL OPENS SPRING STUDY SESSIONS

City employees have another opportunity to sharpen their administrative and technical skills, beginning February 27.

That is the date on which the spring term of the Philadelphia Government Training Institute opens. This institute, operated jointly by the City and local colleges, held highly successful sessions last year in a wide variety of subjects pertinent to City operations.

For $10 per course, the employee "student" may study supervision, communication, personnel, budget preparation and management, office practices, or City government organization.

As part of a master plan for future water distribution in Northwest Philadelphia, the Water Department is creating a modern, remotely controlled pumping station at 68th and Wyncote Aves. It is expected to be ready this spring.

Of attractive contemporary design, the new $352,000 station will operate without personnel. It will be completely noiseless, continuously ventilated, and carefully adapted to its residential surroundings.

Intended to pump filtered water from the Oak Lane Reservoir to a distributing basin at the Upper Roxborough Water Treatment Plant, the new station will be ready for the day —possibly two years from now—when the Upper and Lower Roxborough water works will cease operation. These half-century old water works now supply 25 million gallons daily to Roxborough, Manayunk and Chestnut Hill.

### Part of Plan

The Water Department's master plan calls for future servicing of the Northwest entirely by the Queen Lane and Torresdale Water Treatment Plants. Opening of the new semi-automatic plant at Torresdale in 1959 and recent completion of modernization at Queen Lane, are setting the stage for this development. The next stage will involve completion of the West Oak Lane Pumping Station, extension of an express main (now under construction) along Henry Avenue, from Queen Lane to Roxborough, and improvements at the Queen Lane High Service Pumping Station.

Started early last year, the West Oak Lane station is rapidly approaching completion. Besides future servicing of the Roxborough basin, it will be immediately available for

*(Continued on Page 3)*

# *Confession of a Vicious Dog*

## Wherein He Tells Why Meter Men Are Bitten

The main trouble is that most people simply don't understand me. You forget I've personality—an instinct. I think it will be helpful if I tell you, first hand, what kind of people I bite, and why.

People are either my friends or my enemies; in a dog's life there are no neutrals.

You cannot disguise your feelings, and dog haters cannot pretend to be my friends. When people don't like me, they should realize their effect on me and keep their distance. It's a cinch they ought not to go out of their way to pet me or play with me. That's just stickin' out their chins and askin' for trouble.

I don't think I'd ever have to bite dog lovers if you'd just learn to be a little more considerate. Some think that just 'cause I love you, I'll always be a harmless, understanding mutt.

Well, it's true I've a lot better disposition than most people, but don't carry it too far.

Take, for instance, the sanctity of the home—protection of the home is my job, and I try to do a good job.

Here you come into the yard, onto my porch, and right into my house and don't give me any attention. Likely as not you will pay me no heed until it's too late and I've gotcha' by the pants.

I have my off days too, I'll admit it, but you come in and pound the floors, climb ladders and string wire around the place like a madman. Some things you do irritate me and, before you know it, I've got you. Being sorry doesn't help, and I catch the d. . . . from my master and you have your pants to mend.

Whenever you come to my place, go right to the front door and tell the people what you want to do. Ask them about me, if I'm not around. Suggest that you have me tied or confined so I can't bother you while you work. It may sound silly, but I do have those impulses and, though you're O.K., I may nip you just for luck.

Explain to my master in a nice way and I'm sure he'll keep me out of our way. Of course, people aren't always around so we ought to get together and find out what to do to keep us out of trouble.

Try to see me first and you can prepare yourself for the meeting. When I challenge you, whatever you do, don't run—stay right where you are! Look me straight in the eye and wait for me to stop. *I WILL STOP*, if you hold your ground.

When I've stopped, if I still look belligerent, stand where you are and face me until I go away.

If I decide I'd like to know you better and come closer, put out your open, empty hand, palm up, slow and easy for me to smell.

You are the master in all such meetings, and if you do your part we'll get along all right and no feudin', so let's all be friends. But, keep your eye on me!

If I should nip you, the only danger from a healthy dog is infection—not from me, but from your skin and clothes. Most of us don't have rabies, but since there is a possibility, play it safe. See your doctor right away. Your boss can make arrangements to have me checked and confined.

Let's get acquainted and play it safe, thus avoiding accidents.

*Safety News,*

**Southern Calif. Edison Co.**

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The story of the beginning of the world required only 400 words, the Ten Commandments only 297, and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address only 256. But a government announcement of a cut in the price of cabbage seed took 2,621 words.


## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Published Monthly By**
**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

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**Editor** . . . . . Raymond J. Harris
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| Delaware Division | Stanley Zagnojny |
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| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Main Records | Vacant |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


# BAXTER RECEIVES SCOUTING HONORS

The Silver Beaver Award, Scouting's highest honor for its active friends, went to Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter at the annual banquet of the Philadelphia Boy Scout Council January 31.

Mr. Baxter was one of 15 adults so honored at the affair, which saw 1,000 Scouters throng the Quartermaster Center at 20th and Johnston Streets.

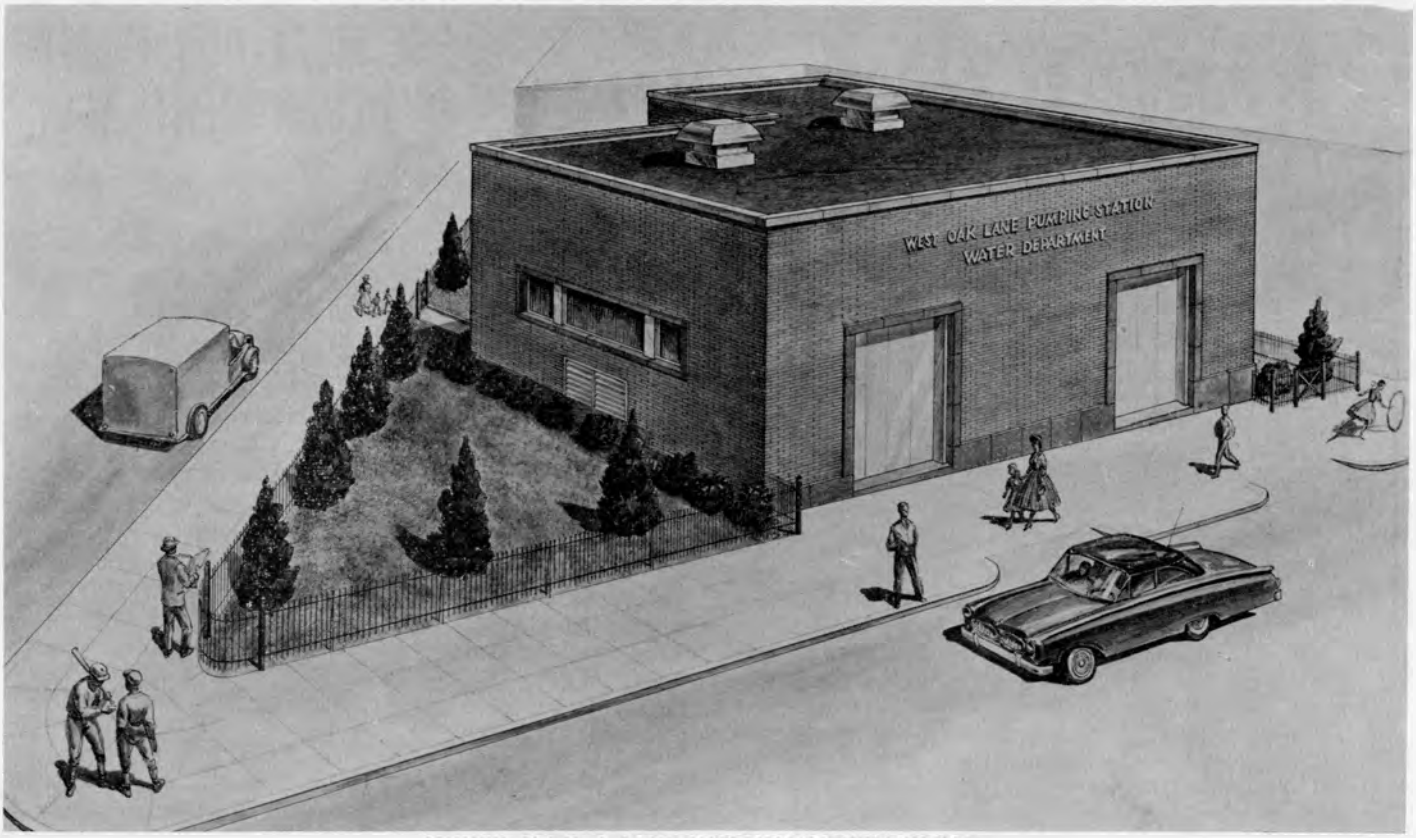
Mr. Baxter, who was recently reelected district chairman of the Boy Scouts' Schuylkill District, has been actively supporting the local Scout program for many years with personal time and energy.

Joseph A. Brunton, the new chief executive of the Boy Scouts, was the principal speaker.

## CARMEN GUARINO TALKS TO SENIOR CITIZENS GROUP

The mysteries of sewers and sewage treatment were explained to a group of senior citizens February 2 by Carmen Guarino, suprintendent of the Southeast and Southwest Sewage Treatment Works.

Mr. Guarino, whose topic was "Where Does the Drainpipe Drain?" talked to a class at the Olney Adult Evening School, Front Street and Duncannon Avenue. All class members were over 65, and full of pertinent questions.




**WEST OAK LANE PUMPING STATION:**
**Drawing shows station as it will look when completed in spring. Station will be automatic, unmanned, noiseless, remotely controlled.**

## PUMPING STATION

*(Continued from page 1)*

meeting peak water demand and other emergencies in the Northwest, including West Oak Lane.

Controlled by push button from a special center at 29th and Cambria Streets, the new station will form part of an intricate electronic and microwave system being created by the Water Department. Electronic signals, conveying data about water pressure, pump operation, etc., will be flashed continuously from the station to a ring of microwave towers erected around the city. These will transmit the data to the 29th Street center, where complex electronic receivers and panels will unscramble it. If water pressure drops at the station, the center operator will know immediately and will be able to start or stop the station pumps by pressing a button at the center.

Standing 22 feet above ground, the station will somewhat resemble an "L" in shape. It will measure 63 feet in length and 46 feet in width. With a steel framework and polished granite base, the structure will have an exterior facing of high quality brick. A granite trim around windows and doors, as well as a roof coping of trimmed limestone, will brighten the appearance. A wrought iron fence, trees, lawn and shrubbery will add to the setting.

The windows will be of corrugated glass and will not open. Careful air control, however, will remove heat continuously. Air will be brought in through aluminum louvers and filtered to keep the electrical equipment clean.

### No Noise

Noise from the pumps and other equipment will not escape the building. Acoustical aluminum insulation in the walls, together with special insulation of the roof, will seal in every sound, thus protecting the neighborhood from the whir of motors and pumps.

The station will have three single stage centrifugal pumps driven by electric motors. The pumps will have a combined capacity of 27 million gallons of water daily. The water will enter the building from 68th Avenue, through 20 to 24-inch pipes set in a pipe gallery 10 feet below grade, and will leave through other pipes in the same gallery.

Construction work is being performed by four Philadelphia firms: General Construction, Eric Ericson, Inc.; electrical work Keystone Engineering Corp.; plumbing, Wolfson and Schnoll, Inc.; ventilating system, McCollum Sheet Metal Co.

## CARE OF THE EYES

Some eye diseases seldom cause pain or reduce vision until they are well advanced. That is why it is important to include an eye examination with your regular, annual physical examination.

If chemicals get in your eyes, wash them out immediately with plenty of clean water, then see the doctor.

See your doctor when you cannot easily remove dust or cinders, or when eyes are red and inflamed and there has been no undue strain or lack of sleep to account for the irritation.

**—U.S. Public Health Service**

## From the Press—50 Years Ago

"Having practically routed the stubborn typhoid plague from within its borders, the City of Philadelphia is jubilant. To pass a week without recording a case has become commonplace, whereas only a few years ago, more than a hundred deaths per week were recorded, not to mention the vast numbers who suffered for weeks before recovering." (**Ed. Note:** This change was due to Philadelphia's five new slow sand filter plants, built by 1909).

* * * * *

But there's nothing wrong with this country that an editorial writer, given five minutes of time, can't cure.

## Water Department
# PROGRESS REPORT - 1960

*Construction:*—Continuing at a high level, actual construction totaled nearly $18.2 million. It included $7.7 million for sanitary sewers; $2.1 million for sewage disposal; $2.5 million for water plants and pumping stations; $1.2 million for water mains; and $1.6 million for flood control. Almost $29.7 million of contracts (many of them started in earlier years) were brought to completion. New contracts awarded in 1960 totaled $17.3 million.

*Queen Lane:*—The new $5.5 million filter building at the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant was opened September 29, making Queen Lane the city's second semi-automatic water works. The capacity of the new plant is 120 million gallons of water daily, with peak capacity of 150 mgd.

*Load Control Center:*—Opened September 14, the new Load Control Center brought automatic monitoring and regulation to water distribution. Forming the focus of a network of electronic sensing devices, telemetering instruments, and microwave towers spread across the city, the center receives second by second information on flows, pressures and levels of water at 120 points. Distant unmanned pumping stations can be controlled by push button from the center.

*River Monitors:*—Automatic monitoring of the Delaware River began November 15 when the Water Department and the U. S. Geological Survey officially launched a new program. Groups of instruments were set up at four points along the river to report on pollution, temperature, salinity and other river conditions.

*Water Mains:*—Among the many miles of new mains built during the year, were the final section of a 3.7 mile long main from Lardners Point across the Northeast; a 3.8 mile main connecting the new West Oak Lane Pumping Station with Chestnut Hill; and another section of the Henry Avenue feeder main.

*Pumping Stations:*—Much modernization work took place at the Belmont, Lardners Point, and Oak Lane Pumping Stations. Building of the West Oak Lane Station (story on page 1) was under way.

*Storm Flood Relief:*—Most notable was opening of a 16-foot diameter section of the Main Relief Sewer, running beneath 22nd Street for 1,300 feet north and south of Oxford Street. By the end of the year the first section of the huge Wakeling Street Relief Sewer in the Northeast was 75% complete.

*Old Sewers:*—Reconstruction of old sewers was strongly pushed. The Oregon Avenue project loomed large. Costing $2 million, this job calls for sewers (and water mains) in Oregon Avenue from the Delaware River to Front Street, north on Front Street to Porter Street, and west of Porter Street to 10th Street.

*Sewage Disposal:*—The sewage treatment works handled more sewage than ever before. The flow averaged 350 million gallons daily, compared with 317.6 million gallons the previous year. Building of interceptor sewers contributed to this rise. An interceptor in Vare Avenue was substantially completed; a section in another interceptor on the west bank of the Schuylkill River was finished.

*Cycle Billing:*—The new cycle billing system for water and sewer bills was launched in January. The system provides for several equally spaced meter readings and billings each year. It is similar to the advanced practices of private business.

# SEE MORE ADVANCES IN DEPARTMENT - 1961

What does the year 1961 hold for the Water Department?

The modernization and expansion program is expected to continue at a vigorous pace.

High on the agenda of this program is reconstruction of the Belmont Water Treatment Plant and expansion of the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works.

The modernization of the Belmont plant, which is one of the original slow sand filter plants erected in the first decade of this country, will form the final phase in the creation of a group of efficient, semi-automatic water works, with rapid sand filters. Although some minor work has already been performed, the main portion of the $9.3 million Belmont modernization will start this spring.

It is planned to place a new building around 12 existing rapid sand filter beds; erect an adjacent building with 14 new rapid sand beds; create two new sedimentation buildings and a chemical building; and modify the present administration building. Rated treatment capacity will be raised from 70 to 78 million gallons of water daily, while peak load capacity will climb from 80 mgd to 105 mgd.

Expansion of the Northeast works has been a necessity for some time. With a rated capacity of 125 million gallons of sewage daily, the plant has been handling up to 145 million gallons daily in recent months. Design work for expansion is now under way, and actual construction may start late this year. The $5.3 million expansion will include an additional aeration tank, four additional final settling tanks, and new blowers. Daily capacity will be raised to 175 mgd.

Other events this year will include rebuilding of the giant Mill Creek Sewer in 46th Street from Market Street north to Haverford Avenue; construction of another section of the Wakeling Street Storm Relief Sewer, and the pushing of an extensive program of new water main construction and old sewer reconstruction.

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Contractor: "Is it true that you gave up smoking and drinking, got a good job, learned good manners, began going with nice people, and then didn't marry the girl after all?"

Foreman: "Yes; I was so much improved I found I could do better."

# ELECT JOHN J. IRWIN HEAD OF RECREATION ASSOCIATION

John J. Irwin, accountant IV in the Accounting Section, has been named president of the Employees' Recreation Association for the coming year.

His election, together with that of other top brass in the ever active group, took place recently at a meeting of the outgoing board of directors.

Chosen vice president was Edward Milburn, mechanical stores clerk of the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works. The treasury will be manned over the next 12 months by Melvin Banks, accountant III, Accounting Section, while Erwin Baskin, engineering aide II, pumping station office (29th and Cambria Streets), will serve as secretary.

The outgoing board also chose a new board of 23 directors (plus three ex-officio members) to oversee the association's policies.

The list of new directors, with units represented by each, follows:

Melvin Banks, for Accounting, Administrative Office, Mail and Records Room; John McCarthy, for center city Sewerage Operations units and Testing Laboratory; John Craney, for Customer Service; Kenneth Zitomer, Construction; Erwin Baskin, all 29th Street Headquarters units (except Meter Shop); James Kenny, Meter Shop; Jerry A. Carraccio, Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; John E. Carr, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; Robert Runkle, Logan Garage; Edward Milburn, Northeast Works; Henry Hoochuk, Southwest Works; Joseph Gavitt, Delaware Pumping Division; Azad Attarian, Water Operations units in Annex; Samuel Schwartz, Projects Control, Engineering Bureau office, and Research and Development; John Mirkil, Design.

Morris Pirolli, for Distribution; Richard Pinder, Quality Control and Water Treatment Headquarters (also acting for Roxborough Water Treatment Plant); Donald Mandell, Sewer Maintenance; George Helmar, Belmont Water Treatment Plant; Ben Morris, Race Street and Fairhill Pumping Stations; Francis Papaleo, Southeast Sewage Treatment Works; Roderick Thomas, Schuylkill Pumping Division.

The following are ex-officio directors: Samuel Schwartz, assistant to the Commissioner; Ervin L. Davis, personnel officer; and Robert Willard, business agent for Water Department Local 394.

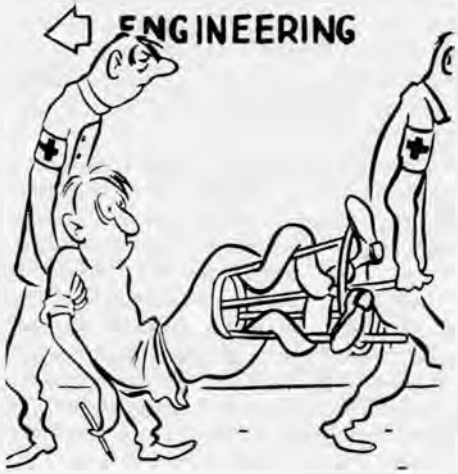
## APPOINT 22 NEW WORKERS TO ANNEX AND FIELD UNITS

Twenty-two new employees have entered the Water Department in the past few weeks. Representing various skills, they are spread throughout the department.

The list includes:

Ronald Campbell and Russell Cooper, laborers, and Miss Kathleen Hunt, clerk I, in the Distribution Section; Alonzo J. Evans and Willie Ware, laborers, at the Belmont Water Treatment Plant; Martin Whitaker, watchman, at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works; Miss Ethelyn Pitts, clerk-typist I, at the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; John R. Lawton, engineering aide II, and Walter Cheatham, engineering aide I, in the Construction Branch; Joseph G. Sweeney and Joseph Koczan, Jr., graduate engineers, together with John Fatula, architect I, in the Design Section.

John Kulick, maintenance mechanic, at the Southwest Sewage Treatment Works; Lee Curtis, crane operator, Sewer Maintenance Section; Miss Shirley Easley, clerk-stenographer I, Water Operations office; Thomas Memmo, account clerk, Accounting Section; Donald Webster and Steven Supp, electronic technicians I, at the Load Control Center; Miss Elizabeth Phillips, clerk-typist II, IBM Unit; Robert G. Sweeney, administrative assistant I, Sewerage Operations office; and Richard S. Wiggins, sewage treatment operator I, Southeast Sewage Treatment Works.




# Personal Notes

### *Torresdale Plant*

A big welcome for Oscar Paulin, Jr., equipment operator I, who transferred from Distribution to Torresdale filters January 9. Here's hoping he won't mind the long ride to Torresdale from South Philadelphia.

Here's to an early recovery from sickness for Joe Watson.

Mrs. Veronica Brady, formerly from Public Health Services, laboratory section, has transferred to Torresdale Laboratory as laboratory helper.

Richard Waterhouse, 67, of 4410 Unruh Street, retired from his position of filter plant operator I, at the Torresdale Filter Plant on January 8. Mr. Waterhouse finished 12 years of municipal employment.

### *Administration*

Congratulations to Yvonne Reid of the Accounting Unit on her marriage on Xmas Eve to Delmar Bostic. Delmar, a handsome man we hear, is with the U. S. Navy Department. Good luck to the newlyweds.

We also wish the best of luck to Janice James of Sewerage Operations, who, we expect, will be married by the time this issue is off the presses. She is marrying Clifton Hatcher of Oak Lane, who studies electronics at Temple Night School. We hope they have a long life together.

The Christmas season was made especially joyful for three of our co-workers when the stork brought three baby boys for extra cheer. Eugene Bonner, assistant to Deputy Commissioner M. Barofsky of Sewerage Operations, was happy to welcome his grandson, Kevin Andrew Bonner on December 22. Rosemary Rosenthal, John Briggs' secretary, greeted the arrival of David Lee Silverman, her second grandson on December 10, and Joe Radziul, distribution design engineer, and his wife Myra, got their "bundle of joy"—Kevin Joseph, on December 27. This should keep the diaper services busy.

### *Queen Lane Plant*

Ed Witowski, chief chemist at Queen Lane, is getting well after being hospitalized for an attack of angina pectoris.

Leroy Jones, laborer, is still on the sick list.

Recent vacations: Mr. and Mrs. William Thompson to Florida; Lew Green, operator at Queen Lane filters, to New England.

**MORRIS SIEGEL**
**Civil Engineer IV**

**EDWARD POTTS**
**Maintenance Supervisor**

# SIEGEL AND POTTS TOP LIST OF 14 EMPLOYEE PROMOTIONS

The New Year has been kind to 14 Water Department employees, who have moved to higher income brackets in the past month.

Topping the list is Morris Siegel, a civil engineer, who has climbed from class III to class IV. Mr. Siegel, who holds important supervisory responsibilities in the Design Section, entered the department some years ago as an assistant structural design engineer. In 1954 he became a civil engineer II, and in January, 1956, a III. He holds two civil engineering diplomas (in structural and public works majors) from the Drexel Institute of Technology. Mr. Siegel lives at 8629 Algon Avenue.

Edward Potts, of 2709 East Clearfield Street, has been promoted from foreman to maintenance supervisor at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works. Mr. Potts started at Northeast in 1947 as a sewage disposal operator, became an electric pump operator in 1948, and in 1949 he was named an operating engineer. Earlier he worked for the U. S. Navy Yard as a trainee machinist and for the Board of Public Education as a fireman. He served in the U. S. Army from 1943 to 1945

Belmont has a new water treatment laboratory supervisor in David Parsons, who has been promoted from Chemist II. Mr. Parsons joined the Torresdale laboratory in 1957 as a chemist I. A graduate of Penn State University (1938) with a bachelor of science degree in chemistry, he worked as an assistant research chemist for Masland Duraleather Company from 1947 to 1954, and then did work on basic chemicals and resins for Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation from 1954 to 1957. His home is at 3586 Belgrade Street.

### Other Promotions

Joseph Goldberger, from management trainee to personnel technician I, Personnel Office; Percy Johnson, from laborer to semiskilled laborer, Sewer Maintenance; Raydell Cox, from clerk-messenger to engineering aide I, Design; Leonard Capobianco, from filter plant operator I to filter plant mechanic-electrical operator, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; Murray Maxwell, from laborer to semiskilled laborer, Meter Shop; Reuben Pearl, from chemist I to II, Belmont Laboratory.

Walter Anderson, from laboratory technician to chemist I, Materials Testing Laboratory; Clarence Campbell, from equipment operator I to filter plant mechanic II, Belmont Laboratory; Benjamin Temple, from filter plant mechanic helper to filter plant operator I, Roxborough Water Treatment Plant; John H. Pierce, from filter plant mechanic helper to filter plant operator I, Torresdale Water Treatment Plant.

# "THE PROBLEM"

**A Yarn by Reuben Pearl**
**Belmont Laboratory**

Problems are a universal disease and no living being is immune to them. But the worst part about problems is that we must solve them somehow. People often use all means available to solve their problems. In fact some people, when desperate, do almost the impossible. To the latter group belonged Mr. Kitzelmann.

Having been unemployed for a long time, Mr. Kitzelmann fell into debt. His debt accumulated to such an extent that he was about to lose his home, unless he could obtain a few hundred dollars immediately.

Being desperate, Mr. Kitzelmann did the following. He gathered as much paper as he could get and burned it into ashes. From the ashes he made a powder, which he placed in small bags. He then hired a horse and wagon, piled the bags on it, and drove to a poor section of the city, shouting: "Attention housewives! Something new! Something new! A new insecticide to kill all types of insects! More powerful than D.D.T.! Cheap! Only five cents a bag!"

### Imaginative Selling

Mr. Kitzelmann was so busy selling, and the housewives were so busy buying the "bargain", that the customers forgot to ask for instructions. Soon nearly all of them gathered around Mr. Kitzelmann's wagon asking him how to use the powder.

"Why, it's very simple, my dear ladies." said Mr. Kitzelmann, "It is a well known fact that tickling is a thrilling sensation accompanied by laughter. It is also a well known fact that when you laugh, you must open your mouth. These two facts are the secrets of my invention. When you apply them to insects, using my powder, you will get the best possible results.

"This is the way it works. When you see an insect, just tickle it. It will start to laugh, thus opening its mouth. Without losing any time, drop a pinch of powder into its mouth and the insect will drop dead instantly."

The crowd broke into laughter. When the laughter had vanished, so had Mr. Kitzelmann.

---

Someone has observed that it is a recession when a neighbor is out of work; it becomes a depression when you lose your job.

**GOLF CHAMP:**
**Joseph Stellabotte (right), of Design, accepts trophy from his chief, Abraham Finkelstein. Joe won Employees' Recreation Association tournament.**

## LONG CAREERS CLOSE FOR THREE EMPLOYEES

Three employees have retired after long service with the department. They are Martin M. Zimmer, Michael J. Kane, and Charles Kintzly.

Mr. Zimmer, of the Design Section, spent 35 years in the City's service. A 1923 civil engineering graduate of Temple University, he held a series of positions in the old Department of Public Works . . . as draftsman, assistant design engineer, and senior assistant design engineer. In 1953 he became a civil engineer I and then II in the Design Section; in 1954 a hydraulic engineer I. Sixty-four years of age, he lives at 1215 South 56th Street.

An employee of the City for 33 years, Mr. Kane served as a pumping station operator in the Delaware Pumping Division. He is 74 and resides at 2550 North Front Street.

Charles Kintzly worked as an operator at the Roxborough Booster Pumping Station from 1946 until his retirement. He was employed by the Shepard Manufacturing Company, a textile firm, from 1913 to 1941, when he went to the Shawmont Raw Water Pumping Station as an operator. Sixty-nine years of age, he lives at 306 Delmar Street.

A tart temper never mellows with age; and a sharp tongue is the only edged tool that grows keener with constant use.—Washington Irving.

# CENTRAL PERSONNEL

## By Foster B. Roser
### Personnel Director

The City of Philadelphia, **second largest employer in the metropolitan area,** employs a work force of 25,766 full-time Civil Service employees to do the work performed in forty different City Departments, Boards, and Commissions. To do this work a vast array of clerical, administrative, fiscal, protective, technical, professional, labor, and trades personnel is required. In fact, your City government employs a more diversified group of specialists and tradesmen than any private industry of comparable size in the area.

Any such large and diversified work organization needs a coordinating unit to insure uniform personnel policies and practices for all employees. To this end the City Charter provides for a Personnel Department, authorizing it to develop, adopt and administer a wide variety of programs which together represent a more comprehensive personnel system than is found in most business and industrial organizations.

One of the most important roles of the Personnel Department is to adopt all City-wide employment policies in the form of Civil Service Regulations. Such regulations, having the force and effect of City Ordinances, are adopted only at public meetings. Additions and amendments are frequently adopted to meet changing conditions.

### Policy Administration

The administration of certain City-wide policies is carried on entirely by the Personnel Department. Other policies or programs are administered in whole or in part by the various departments of the City, and in cooperation with the Personnel Department.

One of the two most important programs carried on entirely by the Personnel Department and which has a personal impact on each employee is that of maintaining a Classification and Pay Plan. By means of job classification, every civil service position, after study and evaluation, has been assigned to its appropriate classification. In turn, each class of positions is allocated to a pay range in the Pay Plan. This is a highly technical program carried on by a staff of sixteen trained technicians.

The second important program deals with recruitment, selection, certification and placement of personnel. This is the area in which civil service examinations take place and involves 50,000 applicants, 600 examinations and 2,500 new hires annually. It is in this area that your promotional examinations are developed and eligible lists created.

The Personnel Department administers the Group Life Insurance program. Records are maintained as to eligible employees and beneficiaries and the staff processes claims to be paid.

Recently the Department inaugurated the Philadelphia Government Training Institute to provide specialized instruction on a variety of subjects related to municipal activities. These courses are given during off-duty time and on a prepaid fee basis. Many Water Department employees have taken these courses and the Institute plans to enlarge its scope of courses, which should attract many more of your employees.

### Most Administration Decentralized

In spite of the impressions to the contrary, personnel administration for the most part is carried out by the various operating departments rather than the Personnel Department. Thus, although the central personnel agency may adopt policies, their administration is in reality delegated to the departments. While the Personnel Department may advise or consult with, and even post-audit departmental actions, responsibility for results rests with the departments. Programs included in this category are vacation, sick leave, training, safety, service-incurred disability, and performance reports.

Other policies such as leaves of absence, layoff, earned pay step increases, voluntary demotions, transfers, and rejection during probation are initiated by the operating departments, but must be approved by the Personnel Department.

The suggestion system, in which employees are given cash payments for adopted suggestions, is a partnership program. Awards approved by the various departments are, in turn, reviewed by a Management Committee for final approval. Annually the Management Committee in collaboration with the Personnel Department selects the two annual grand awards, usually $250 for each.

# SUPERVISORS FINISH IMPROVEMENT CLASS

Good water is only one of the products turned out by the Water Department these days. There is also good supervision.

Thirty supervisors of the middle and lower echelons received certificates recently for completion of the department's supervisory training course. Drawn mainly from water distribution and pumping sections, the supervisors attended eight two-hour sessions, which covered human relations, problem solving, work simplification, training, discipline, and employee evaluation.

Planned and directed by Cornelius J. O'Kane, the department's busy training officer, the course is now being attended by personnel of the Sewerage Operations Division.

The conference method is used in the course, together with handouts, case histories, demonstrations and blackboard work.

### Supervisory Graduates

Recent graduates of the course are:

*Foremen, Water Distribution*—John Catalano, Richard W. Connelly, Nadine Eskridge, Carlo Fusco, Francis E. Gallagher, George F. Harvey, Joseph Lenzi, Anthony McGinn, Raymond G. Martin, Leroy C. Millard, Fred Perrone, James H. Price, Robert E. Sullivan, A. Travaglio, William R. Traynor, Robert G. Troyano, Robert Willard, and Robert Riebel.

*Assistant Supervisors, Water Distribution* - Daniel Caruso, Samuel Consalvo, Michael Elia, Edward F. Goebel, and William J. Smith.

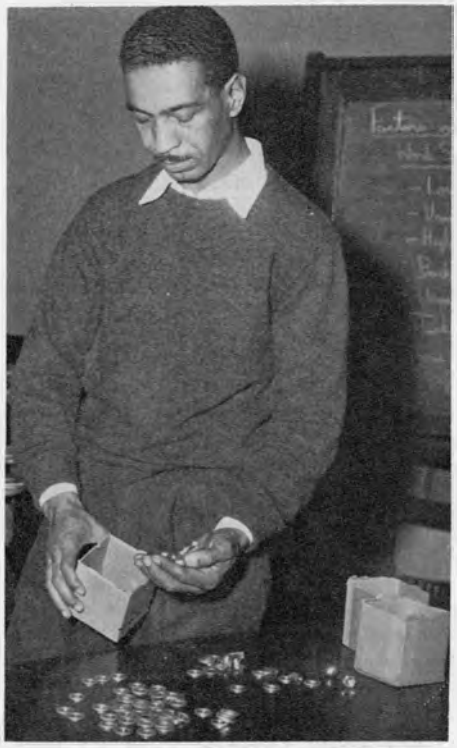
*Assistant Pumping Chiefs*—James P. Brady, Jr., and Benjamin F. Day.

Others included Joseph F. Flannery, automotive dispatcher II at the Meter Shop; Edward F. Thompson, Upper Roxborough Water Treatment Plant supervisor; Max D. Dixon, hydraulic engineer, Water Distribution; and James J. Johnson, filter plant maintenance supervisor, Torresdale Water Treatment Plant.

### Other Forms of Training

The department's extensive training effort also encompasses new employees. Orientation sessions were attended by 111 newcomers in 1960. Topics ranged from organization, safety and sick leave to pay, promotion, and pension. The new employee was thoroughly informed of rules, regulations and benefits, and was given opportunity to ask any question. Literature was made available.


**ON DISPLAY AT THE HOME SHOW: The Water Department's attractive color photographs, flashing map, and laboratory equipment were seen by most of 165,000 visitors to show. Joseph Cooper (right foreground), of Northeast Works Laboratory, answered hundreds of queries.**



**FASTER WAY TO STOW WASHERS**

**Is shown by Nadine Eskridge, "student" in supervisory training class. Story at left.**

Twenty-four older employees attended a two-hour session in drainage problems, with emphasis on structure, nomenclature and investigative techniques affecting private dwellings.

A man who doesn't lie to a girl has little consideration for her feelings.

# MIKE LARIO KEEPS CITY PAPER FLOWING

Michael Lario, formerly one of the Design Section's ablest men, is now up to his ears in paper.

Mike is the acting supervisor of the new central duplicating unit set up by the Managing Director's Office. Duplicating equipment from various City departments, including Water, was concentrated in Room 1119, Annex, on January 2, and placed under the control of the Department of Records.

Since then requests from numerous City departments for rush duplicating jobs have been pouring in to Mike and his two assistants.

Mike, his hands black with honest printer's ink, estimates that if the current rate continues, his unit will turn out 6,000,000 impressions by the end of the year. That's a lot of paper. We hope we can still find Mike under all that at the end of the year.


PHILADELPHIA, PA. APRIL - MAY 1961

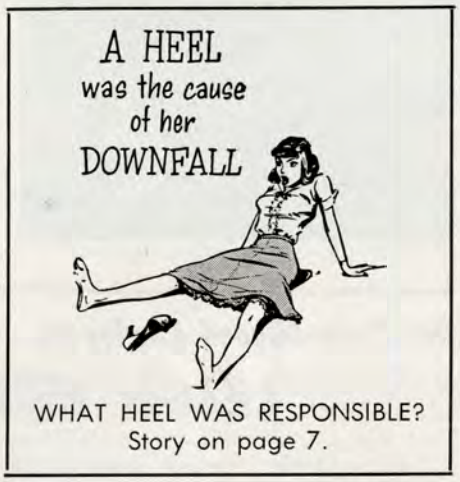
## CITY EMPLOYEES' WEEK SET FOR MAY 28 - JUNE 3

City Employees' Week, which is observed annually in honor of the municipality's personnel, will be held May 28-June 3 this year.

Although many plans are still being discussed by committees, an employees' luncheon will take place in the Hotel Sheraton Thursday, June 1. Several employees, who have made meritorious contributions to City service, will receive awards, and there will be a surprise speaker of national calibre.

Sidney B. Dexter, chairman of the Civil Service Commission, heads the general planning committee.

# NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL TO PRESENT 183 SAFE DRIVER AWARDS TO EMPLOYEES




WHAT HEEL WAS RESPONSIBLE?
Story on page 7.

Other motorists may be tearing up the highways, but 183 Water Department drivers will shortly receive Safe Driver Awards from the National Safety Council. The awards to employees, who operate departmental vehicles either full or part time, are for driving the entire year of 1960 without an accident.

More than 83% of the department's 220 possible eligibles qualified for the awards. In fact the department has leaped over all previous records. In 1959 there were 164 safe drivers; in 1958 some 168; and in 1957 only 143.

Seventy-five of the drivers are qualifying for the fourth time in a row, and thirty-two for the third time. These, as well as two-year winners, will receive National Safety Council key rings; first-year men will get attractive lapel pins. Certificates will go to all winners.

### Motor Accidents

Drivers who failed to get awards were involved in 95 motor vehicle accidents, a 21% improvement over 1959 but still too high, according to Safety Engineer John Cappio. "We are striving for still more improvement," said Mr. Cappio.

Back of the department's comparatively good showing is a continuing safety education campaign, which seeks to make drivers more conscious of the hazards of the road. Stress is placed particularly on the dangers of turning maneuvers, sideswiping, rear end collisions, and intersectional crossing.

The National Safety Council defines a Safe Driver as "one who makes allowance for the lack of skill of others. . . keeps on the alert. . . foresees

LIST OF DRIVERS . . . page 8

WATER QUALITY PERSONNEL FROM NORTHEASTERN. U. S. learn latest raw water sampling techniques in seminar conducted by U. S. Public Health Service at Philadelphia's Torresdale Water Treatment Plant. Story, page 2.

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Published Monthly By**
**THE WATER DEPARTMENT**

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| Water Operations Office | Sylvia Weiss |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


IN THE SPRING . . .

## EDWARD KNIGHT RETIRES

Edward Knight, an engineering aide III, retired on February 17 after fifteen years' service with the Water Department.

Mr. Knight, a capenter by trade, has spent nearly fifty years in the construction field, having previously worked for Cramp and Company, and the Board of Education.

A veteran of World War I, Mr. Knight served in France with the Army Engineers.

All of "Eddie's" associates wish him continued good health and hope to see him around the construction sites in the future.

---

*Two young male students were discussing the newly discovered fact that the human body is 92% water. Just then, a lovely coed walked by and all conversation stopped.*

*In a moment one lad resumed the subject by remarking, "Man, she sure did a lot with her 8%!"*

---

*...The most disappointed people in the world are those who get what is coming to them.*

---

*What we need are drivers who can think as fast as their cars will go.*

## VISITING EXPERTS STUDY AT TORRESDALE SEMINAR

Stream pollution control got another "assist" late in March when water quality personnel from northeastern states attended a three-day seminar at Philadelphia's new Torresdale Water Treatment Plant.

The course was given by the U. S. Public Health Service for 28 employees of water utilities and industries located in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, Michigan, Ohio and the New England states. The firms cooperate in a wide flung network established by USPHS for the collection and study of data on the quality of water in streams, lakes and boundary bodies.

Purpose of the instruction was to bring "students" up to date on standards and techniques used in data collection, as well as to give them a progress report on the program as a whole.

During the three days at the plant, the visitors attended lectures in the conference room and numerous demonstrations in the modern laboratories.

The classes were conducted by four instructors from the USPHS's Robert A. Taft Sanitary Engineering Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. They were Dwight Ballinger, Robert Kroner, Dale Malott, and Stephen Megregian.

### *Our Civic Minded Employees*

## *LEIGH HEBB - EXPERT*

Leigh Hebb, budget analyst in charge of financial programming of water and sewer funds, has become a member of the faculty of Temple University Evening School where he teaches a course in public administration—Public Fiscal Management—on a regular college level. Leigh comes well prepared for his position as a result of his varied back-ground.

Mr. Hebb was born in New York City; graduated from Brooklyn College and the Fordham Law School. He did not practice law but has used his legal knowledge as a background in other positions he has held. Leigh completed graduate work in municipal administration at Wayne University in Detroit and for 10 years was in the certification section of the New York City Personnel Department. From 1946 to 1951, he was senior municipal finance analyst in the municipal credit department of Dun and Bradstreet in New York. From that position, Leigh worked for nearly seven years as a research assistant with the Pennsylvania Economy League—Bureau of Municipal Research.

### Has a Green Thumb

Leigh Hebb came to the Water Department in December of 1957 and because of his wonderful sense of humor the General Administration section is a happier office to be in. Leigh has also added to the general cheerfulness of the office with his new hobby of gardening — evidence of which is seen all around the office in the healthy looking plants.

Adele Hebb, Leigh's wife of 14 years, is administrative assistant in our own Department of Health. They live in Germantown with their cat, Pamina—Leigh loves cats ! ! ! Leigh is also a faithful opera goer and is a regular subscriber to the Academy of Music and also has operatic recordings which he listens to regularly on his Hi-Fi. In his spare time, Leigh is a co-leader in a second year Great Books Discussion Group at the West Oak Lane Library.

As if all of this weren't enough—Leigh is also a cook of exotic and unusual foods—If Adele will let him in the kitchen long enough. We hope Leigh's college students will be able to absorb just some of the brilliance and versatility of Leigh's background.

*by Rosemary Rosenthal*

# SPEED NEW COMPACT FOR DELAWARE BASIN

Three governors and the representative of a fourth governor assembled in Philadelphia February 1 to consider one of the most unusual compacts of recent times.

The compact would provide for an interstate agency with extensive powers to plan and regulate the future use of waters in the Delaware River Basin. Setting up a Delaware River Basin Commission, composed of the Governors of Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Delaware as well as a representative of the President of the United States, the compact strongly promotes regional cooperation.

This would be the first time that a group of states might accept the Federal Government as a full partner in an agreement of this breadth.

The new compact, which must be approved by the state legislatures and by the Congress, is the outgrowth of a long felt need. With population in the Delaware Basin expected to rise from 22 million to 40 million in the next 50 years accompanied by a great growth of industry, water demand will soar. The experts believe that a comprehensive plan is needed for the development and conservation of water supply for a multitude of uses throughout the area.

### Many Basin Agencies

At present there are 250 public and private water utilities in the basin. In addition there are 43 state, 14 interstate, and 19 federal agencies with overlapping and splintered responsibilities. One coordinating agency for the entire basin would help greatly.

The new interstate agency will not sell water to home owners and industry. Its job will be to draw up a long range comprehensive plan for the basin, improve water supply and flood control, extend water recreational opportunities, create proper conditions for soil conservation and fish propagation, abate pollution of streams by setting regional standards, develop hydroelectric power, and regulate withdrawals of water by communities. As part of its work, it will build dams, reservoirs and other facilities; it may operate these itself or lease them. The commission may issue its own bonds. Federal and state agencies carrying out water projects in the basin will consult with the commission to fit such projects into the regional plan.

It is believed that the Federal Government, if it accepts the compact, will invest substantial sums of money in Delaware Basin water supply projects, and the states would also contribute. This would be in line with the recommendations of the report made by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers last year. The Corps, with the aid of 18 other federal agencies, completed a three and one-half year study of the basin and its needs.

The compact was drawn up by the Delaware River Basin Advisory Committee, a group representing the Governors of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey as well as the Mayors of Philadelphia and New York City.

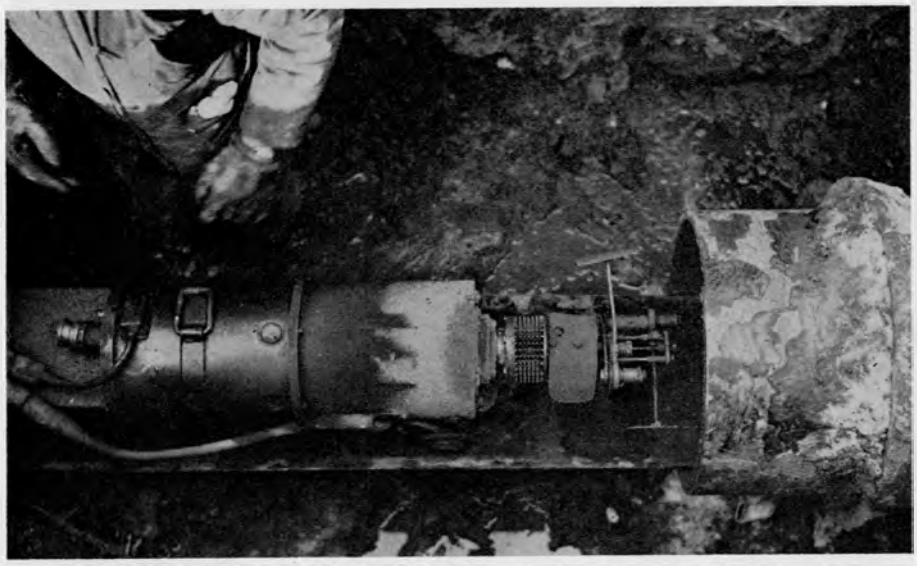
MAP OF DELAWARE RIVER BASIN gets eye from (l. to r.) Mayor Robert F. Wagner, N.Y.C.; Governor David L. Lawrence, Pa.; Mayor Richardson Dilworth, Phila.; Governor Elbert N. Carvel, Del.; and Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, N.Y., as group studies interstate compact for Delaware.


DELAWARE RIVER BASIN

## REPORT ADDRESS CHANGE

Employees who change their addresses or names are requested by the Personnel Office to report this fact within 24 hours. Report forms may be obtained from supervisors or timekeepers.

Failure so to report within the time limit will result in a *one day suspension.*



POWERED CEMENT SPREADER is ready to move into water main in need of lining. Trowels at right smooth out cement.

# SPRING CASTETH ITS GLOW OF CLEANLINESS AS CREWS SCRAPE AND CEMENT LINE MAINS

Spring house cleaning has begun at 60 points in the Water Department's huge water main network. Busy contractors' crews are cleaning and cement lining 25 miles of old cast iron mains.

Ranging in age from 25 to 125 years, the mains have never been cleaned before, and with passing time they have collected corrosive particles that reduce their capacity. The purpose of the work is to increase water pressure and flow through the pipes.

Varying from six inches to four feet in diameter, the mains will be thoroughly scraped and then will be cement lined for the first time. This will make them almost as good as new, and for only a fraction of the cost of installing new mains.

One happy result will be the lessening of discolored water in neighborhoods served by the reconditioned lines.

A 30-inch main in Arch Street, running between 2nd and 21st Streets, was recently cleaned at night with satisfactory results. Other mains, scattered throughout the city, will follow.

The department has been reconditioning its old mains for several years, and this program will continue.

### They Ride As They Work

Special purpose machines are used for scraping and lining. In many cases the operators ride the machines right into the mains.

Five-foot sections are cut from the mains at 1,000 to 2,000-foot intervals. Into the ends thus opened, the scraping machine pushes a plunger with scrapers. When the plunger reaches the end of the line, it is pushed back by water pressure or hauled back by cable, bringing with it the dirt and corrosion lodged in the main.

A long squeegee then is run through the pipe, and the cement lining operation begins. The operator rides a powered apparatus into the main. As it slowly moves along, the machine rapidly throws a thin layer of cement on the walls and three powered trowels smooth over the cement. In the case of mains measuring only 20 inches in diameter, the operator lies face down while operating the machine.

After the cement sets, the removed five-foot section—also cleaned and coated with cement—is replaced and fastened with dresser couplings. The final step is to sterilize the main by filling it with heavily chlorinated water, which is allowed to stand for 24 hours.

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*Applying for his first accounting job the recent high school graduate was momentarily puzzled by a question on the application blank which read, "What machines can you operate?" Pausing briefly, he wrote, "Slot and pin ball."*

---

*Customer: "Why do you have an apple for a trademark? You're a tailor."*
*Tailor: "Well, if it hadn't been for the apple, where would the clothing business be?"*

---

*Optimist: A man who works out the cost of his vacation in advance.*

# News Flashes

**Published by**
**Office of the City Representative**

* * * * *

Up. Up. Up. Pan Am begins jetting daily June 1 direct from Philadelphia International Airport to London or Paris. Significance: costly installation of service demonstrates airline's faith in this area's emergence as a major air travel market . . . Work in progress will furnish badly-needed 25 per cent expansion for seven-year-old terminal building.

* * * * *

Police now issuing summonses on the spot to center city apartment dwellers stuffing street baskets with trash or garbage they should hold for collection days. Penalties are $5 to $50 fines, 15 to 30 days in jail.

* * * * *

Fire safety inspections set for all bowling alleys. Summer-long check of entire textile and garment manufacturing industry to follow . . . Scofflaw owners of 236 tenements have installed fire alarms and escape ladders since Jan. 1 after city moved to do the work then render a bill.

* * * * *

City now certifying substandard dwelling properties under new FHA home fix-up loan program. FHA underwrites long-term, low-interest financing when City attests a property is substandard, and owner cannot obtain a conventional loan for repairs.

* * * * *

What's doing in Philadelphia? Sports, entertainment, events at some 60 famous public places spelled out in "Philadelphia in Spring" leaflet at Mayor's Office for Information & Complaints, 121 City Hall . . . Office also has "Get Acquainted" packets brimming with where-to-go-what-to-do trips.

* * * * *

April ground breakings are set in key Washington Square East redevelopment area for first of 100 town houses, also for 33-story Hopkinson House.

* * * * *

Welcome spring harbinger is state-announced plan for 4500-acre scenic-recreational Tohickon Creek Park in Bucks County. City govt. is urging fast action to reserve at least 75,000 nearby acres so that Philadelphia is not entirely ringed by suburban sprawl . . . Migrating waterfowl are back by the thousands at City's own Tinicum Wildlife Preserve, southerly from Eastwick. Great American Egrets arrive in later spring. Take your binoculars.

# EIGHTEEN EMPLOYEES ATTAIN PROMOTIONS TO BETTER JOBS

Devotion to duty hath its reward. Owen F. Stenson once knocked out 1,200 window panes in the Meter Shop and neighboring office area. For this and other abilities he is one of 18 employees to receive promotions in the past month.

Lest you misunderstand, let us add that Mr. Stenson was under orders . . . we were modernizing. Mr. Stenson, who lives at 2009 Devereaux Street, has been advanced from Painter I to II in the Distribution Section. He joined the department in May, 1954, after 12 years with the Electric Storage Battery Company.

Also on the promotion list is George W. Albright, 7641 Fillmore Street, who became a sewage plant foreman at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works. Appointed a sewage plant operator in 1952, Mr. Albright was promoted to class II in 1958. Earlier he was employed by various private firms, including the Kramer Furniture Company, Thomkins Brass, and Midvale Steel Company.

Promoted from chemist I to II at the Torresdale Laboratory was David Jacobe, 1823 North 21st Street. Mr. Jacobe is a 1956 graduate of Temple University with a bachelor of science degree in chemistry and pharmacy. He entered the Water Department in December, 1957.

### Other Promotions

James A. O'Keefe, Jr., from engineering aide I to II, Construction Branch; Oscar Paulin, from water distribution repairman trainee to equipment operator I, Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; Toni Carter, from laborer to semiskilled laborer, Meter Shop; Fred Crenshaw, from laborer to automotive driver, General Administration.

James S. Cousins, from sewage treatment operator I to II, Northeast Works; Charles Jackson, from laborer to semiskilled laborer, Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant; Joseph G. Sweeney and Joseph Koczan, Jr., from graduate engineer to civil engineer I, Design Section; Henry Brown, Jr., from laborer to automotive driver, Torresdale Laboratory; Huett Johnson, from laborer to semiskilled laborer, Meter Shop.

Steve L. Ellis, Harry Darby, Lawrence Fitts, Nathan Simmons, and Charles Sparks, from trainee to water distribution repairman, Distribution Section.

Mary Waters and John Floyd, both from engineering aide II to III. Miss Waters has been transferred to Design; Mr. Floyd to Water Operations Analysis.

Carmine Lauro has been reappointed as an engineering aide II in Water Main Records.

"How was I to know she looked like that? When I hired her, she was wearing glasses."

## DEPARTMENT APPOINTS FIFTEEN NEW WORKERS

Fifteen new employees were appointed to positions in the Water Department during the past month. Scattered through various divisions, they include:

Steven Supp, electronic technician I at the Load Control Center; James R. Smith, laborer at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works; Edward F. Hertkorn, civil engineer II in the Design Section; Jerome L. Glickman, graduate engineer in the Construction Branch; Louis Breitenbach, filter plant mechanic helper at the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant; Jerry Zulli, brick mason in the Sewer Maintenance Section; Cornelius Dugan, chemist I at the Queen Lane Laboratory; Don B. Morton, clerk messenger in the Design Section.

George Homes, physical chemist, in the Testing Laboratory; Morris Williams, laborer at the Southwest Sewage Treatment Works; George R. Booker, welder, in the Distribution Section; Robert Pierce, laborer in the Distribution Section; Robert S. Hansford and Walter Glover, sewage treatment operators I, at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, and George Fisher, field inspector in the Distribution Section.

PROMOTED TO WATER DISTRIBUTION REPAIRMEN are (l. to r.) Lawrence Fitts, Steve L. Ellis, Harry Darby, Nathan Simmons and Charles Sparks.

EDWARD JACKSON HOLDS $15 CHECK and certificate, rewards for suggesting more efficient parking plan for 29th Street HDQ. Deputy Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold (left), Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, and Thomas E. Beaudet (right), Ed's building maintenance boss, smile approval.

## METER MEN LEAD BOWLING LEAGUERS

Currently leading the department's busy bowling league is a sure armed foursome from the Meter Shop.

With 44 victories and only 20 losses, the four—Bill Bene, Al Gionta, Milt Gordon and John Liberatore—carried the Meter Shop to the top of the league during the first half of its season. In fact Bene and Gionta added to their laurels by piling up the highest scores (243 and 233 respectively) for any single game.

Northeast Works, with 40 wins and 24 losses, stood second in the league, while the Design Section, with 29 and 35, took third place.

Other teams are Drainage, Meter Truck, Load Control, Distribution, and Main Sewers.

The second half of the season is now under way, and the battle is becoming nip and tuck as the teams seek to maintain or alter their positions. The Main Sewers Section has pushed its way to the top with 19 victories and only five losses, but two Meter Shop men (Bene and Liberatore) are the high scorers. The Distribution Section was last reported in second place for the second half. Over all the Meter Shop, with 15 victories in the second half, is still top dog.

## Retirements

### SMITH and NEWMAN LAKE and JONES

An equipment operator with 34 years of municipal service is among four employees who have retired from the Water Department.

Phinehas Smith, 4313 Dexter Street, entered the old Department of Public Works in the late 1920's, and was taken into the Water Department in 1952. During most of his service, he operated trucks for the Water Distribution Section. He is 61.

Francis C. Newman has laid aside his paint brush after 12 years with the City. A Painter II in the Building Maintenance Section, he worked previously for Garders Bros. Seventy-three years of age, Mr. Newman lives at 2126 South Gould Street.

Two laborers have also retired. William M. Lake, 70, of 2614 Ellsworth Street, was employed for nearly six years at the Roxborough Water Treatment Plant. Leroy Jones, 71, of 2129 Nassau Street, had almost seven years of service at the Queen Lane Plant.

To each of these employees fellow workers extend best wishes.

## SPRY SHOPPERS TO GET BARGAINS

Bargain prices for all sorts of events are being waved by the Employees' Recreation Association before its 845 members.

For example:

Philadelphia Eagles fans are being offered a "steal" . . . a pair of 1961 season tickets covering seven home games at only $18. Under the arrangement between the Water Department group and the Eagles, any member of the association may purchase the reduced tickets for his personal or family use.

On another front, the association has arranged with the Abbey Theatre Group for reduced price tickets to two plays, "Finian's Rainbow" and "Street Car Named Desire." Paul Siegel, of the department's Construction Branch, is one of the leading actors.

Other recent "specials" of the association have included $2 seats for "Spartacus" at the Goldman Theater on March 20 (normally $2.50); reduced tickets for a Philadelphia Warriors game; and reduced prices for "Cimarron" and "Once Upon a Mattress."

For future events, tickets and information may be obtained through association representatives in Water Department sections, or through Azad Attarian, chairman of the ticket services committee, LO 8-5950 ext. 216.

★ ★ ★

## INATTENTION


## IN HOT WATER

## Don't Blame the Employees

A Gremlin

# *The Gremlins Did It*

**A Shocking Report . . . and not from Fairyland . . . about Mischievous Doings**

Remember the gremlins, those little elves who caused so much trouble for pilots during and after World War II. No one talks about them anymore . . . but that doesn't mean that they don't exist. Anyone who studies the accident curves of big industries around the country knows that the mischievous gremlins have only moved into other challenging fields.

Take, for example, the Water Department in 1960. The gremlins were really gleeful. They caused more accidents than you could shake a magic wand at.

Although it is well known that accidents can be prevented, 184 Water Department employees didn't believe it . . . and that, you see, gave the gremlins their chance. These employees suffered personal injury, and it didn't do any good for them or for the department (which lost 1,129 of their valuable work days) to be sorry.

There was really no mystery about these accidents. The gremlins were waiting . . . and when employees committed unsafe acts, well, that did it. You see, gremlins love unthinking employees, because unthinking employees are always good for funny (or not so funny) accidents. In fact unsafe acts by employees . . . pure and unsullied unsafe acts . . . caused 111 accidents in 1960. Oh, it was nothing much that employees did. They simply forgot (no harm in that) or they were inattentive (maybe a pretty girl was passing by). Some of them didn't know that there are right ways and wrong ways of lifting heavy objects (what's so special about lifting?), or for that matter of standing when you do your lifting. In all of this, of course, we can hear those sly gremlins whispering, "Aw, forget it. The safety engineer is not around."

Yes, mind you, it was not the employee's fault . . . not really. It was simply that the department was afflicted with the worst type of gremlin . . . the species called "accidentus pronus" . . . that's Latin. When an accidentus pronus gets hold of you, watch out.

There were, for example, the employees who might have used safety equipment, but it happened to be in the truck or down the hall, and they were "dissuaded" . . . because no gremlin, you know, is going to walk that far with you. The gremlins had a field day encouraging improper or unsafe methods . . . short cuts, in other words . . . and they certainly were no friends of good housekeeping.

The truth is that the naughty gremlins were innocent in only six cases, caused by hazardous conditions. Although there were 57 other instances of hazardous conditions, the gremlins were able to wield their wicked influence because the employee unwisely combined an unsafe act with each such hazardous condition. The wiser employees did not fall for that one. They were against unauthorized combinations.

The gremlins resorted to many devious devices. They caused employees to slip, to trip, to get struck by objects that were standing still, or even to be caught by some nasty minded bit of equipment. Some employees fell flat on their noodles when getting on or off a piece of equipment, simply because a thoughtless gremlin tripped them. It was that bad!

Well, a new year has come, and the department safety engineer . . . a serious minded chap who is really concerned about the employees . . . is rallying his forces for a counter attack on the gremlins. But he can't do it with his present meager army. He needs recruits . . . lots of employees willing and eager to be safe in the coming year. He feels that if he can get together a big enough army, the gremlins can be driven clear to the sewers and maybe ambushed at the sewage works, where they would make a nice meal for those voracious little bacteria in the digestion tanks. In any case, everyone will be a lot safer.

Employees desiring to enlist can obtain plenty of advice from supervisors and from safety committeemen appointed by the department.

Why don't you join now? Honestly, YOUR DEPARTMENT NEEDS YOU, and wants to keep you . . . in one piece.


The Story: She broke the heel of her left shoe. Had she worn safe and sensible shoes, this would not have happened.

## PLAY IT SAFE . . .

*If you have read the shattering story at the left of this page, you may be ready for some tips on how to be safe.*

*Here's how:—*

1. *Wear your goggles, hard hat or other protective eqipment.*
2. *Use safety devices whenever possible.*
3. *Take sensible precautions.*
4. *Report hazardous conditions to your supervisor.*
5. *Be alert, and never take things for granted.*
6. *Above all, follow the safety rules laid down by the Water Department.*

*If you do these things, the mischievous gremlins won't get you.*

**Editor's Note: Cartoons by courtesy of National Safety Council.**

# PERSONAL NOTES

### *Torresdale*

Congratulations to Frank Tiano, filter plant mechanic II, upon his eldest daughter's engagement; also to Thomas Doherty, whose daughter walked down the aisle January 14 to say "I do."

Here's to an early recovery for Albert Turner, mechanic helper, who was hurt in an automobile accident.

Torresdale extends a hearty welcome to: Louis Breitenback, mechanic helper, and Henry Brown, automotive driver.

* * * * *

### *Distribution*

Twin grandchildren (David and Jacqueline), born January 18, have put Morris Pirolli, new Water Department All-Stars manager, into another big league. He now has four grandchildren.

* * * * *

### *Administration*

Heartiest congratulations are in order for Louis Rubin, accountant III, who passed his Pennsylvania state tests to become an official C.P.A.

Deputy Commissioner of Water Operations G. E. Arnold was pleased as punch at the recent additions to his family. His daughter, Mrs. Keith Erwing, of Vinton, Iowa, had her second daughter, Carol, on December 18, and his son, Edward Arnold, a first child, a boy, Bruce, on November 29.

Joseph Duffy, administrative analyst in Water Operations, and his wife welcomed their third child on February 2—Stephen Duffy. Good luck to the happy parents.

Henry Cejko, accountant II and and his Mrs. are proud of their fourth baby—a boy, who was born in early January.

Our sincerest sympathy is extended to Melvin Banks, accountant III, on the loss of his mother.

* * * * *

### *Building Maintenance*

Bruce Thomas Olexa, Jr., second son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Olexa, was born January 27 . . . a robust eight pounds and two ounces.

* * * * *

### *Plant Maintenance*

The employees of the Plant Maintenance Section extend their condolences to Robert Rabiger and his family upon the death of Mr. Rabiger's father, Walter B. Rabiger. The elder Rabiger was an outstanding sandlot baseball player in his youth.

## DO YOU LIVE IN PHILADELPHIA?

City employees are required to be residents of Philadelphia, according to a brief Personnel Office reminder.

The residence requirement was adopted by the City Council on April 16, 1953 and has been applied since then without exception to all municipal jobs for which the City pays out its good cash. Exempt from the provision are *non-paid* members of City boards and commissions.

Residence within the City, it is reported, means an honest to goodness domicile . . . not a mail slot.

For some hard to fill jobs, the Civil Service Commission occasionally waives the residence requirement temporarily . . . but even in these cases the new appointee must move into Philadelphia within six months.

# SPRING BRINGS OUT EAGER SOFTBALL MEN

In the spring a young man's fancy turns to softball in the Water Department.

Morris Pirolli, manager of the department's All-Stars, is getting ready for the annual flood of eager players. Plans are already under way for spring training and entry of the team into an industrial league. The All-Stars, winners of a series of championships in the past few years, will be well equipped.

Would-be recruits should contact Edward Milburn, business manager, at Aut. 1721 or CU 8-8013, Mr. Pirolli notes.

Players who would like to play in an intra-departmental league rather than the All-Stars will also have their chance. Last year's successful Water Department softball league, composed of unit teams, will be revived. Equipment will be provided for the teams by the Employees' Recreation Association. For details, contact John J. Irwin, association president, Aut. 369 or LO 8-5950 ext. 12.

# SAFE DRIVERS

(Continued from page 1)

dangerous situations . . . and concedes the right of way to prevent an accident."

### Four-Year Awards

Robert Accoe, Victor A. Appleyard, Samuel S. Baxter, Elwood L. Bean, Theordore C. Blessman, Richard Boggs, Ernest Brennenstuhl, Edward S. Broccola, Harry Canty, Walter Clark Jr., Edward Clayburne, Donald J. Crawford, Richard DeCharms, Charles J. Doerr, Robert Easley, Robert Eastwood, Nadine Eskridge, Frank Federico, Theodore Fitzhugh Jr., Julius Fuller, Hugo Gallizia, James Gass, Alfred P. Gionta and Elmer Goebel.

Edward Goebel, Gerald Graham, Frank Guarino, John Harley, William Hatalovitch, William T. Heller Jr., Francis S. Helverson, John Herrman, Vincent Hughes, Louis Hunter, William J. Hylan, Frank Neough, Joseph F. Kowalski, Kendall J. Lawson, John W. Lewis, Harry Lopata, Joseph C. Loughran, Albert Mannino, Jerry Manzo, Harold Meyerson, John J. Monaghan, John Montgomery, Charles Muelhoff, Francis O'Shea, Victor A. Pagnotto, Fred Perrone, Philip C. Pfaff, and Richard D. Pinder.

Morris F. Pirolli, Joseph M. Reichman, Walter C. Ringer, Harry Schmitt, George W. Scott, Harry Simmons, Thomas J. Smith, Richard Supplee, William Thompson, Russell Thomas, Walter Thomas, Joseph A. Thompson, Paul Tramontina, Frank Troehler, Robert Troyano, Albert Tyman, Frank Venere, Charles E. Vickerman, Clarence Walton, William N. Washington, Robert Waters and Elmer Ziegele.

### Three-Year Awards

Jacob Balk, Abraham Barmish, William Barnes, William Biles, James P. Brady, Jr., Warren Bush, Milton L. Cheatham, Peter D'Amelio, Edwin F. Davies, Benjamin F. Day, Francis DeGasto, Fred DelColle, Clinton Dorsey, Michael Elia, Joseph C. Everett, W. J. Flynn Jr., John Hevener, Rudolph Krum, John Maffett, A. Thomas Mallas, James F. Muller, Oscar Perkins, Robert Riebel, Angelo J. Rizzo, Hilliard Rogers, John H. Sassman, Phineas Smith, Angelo Sticco, Edgar Tohlin, Anthony Travaglio, Fred R. Twers and Edward Whitted.

### Two-Year Awards

William Abel, Thomas Beaudet, David Bowman, Robert Bradstock, Donato Caryso, Edward Costello, Samuel R. Costello, Tracy Dukes, John Enders, Lonnie Evereet, Charles Glacken, Carmen Guarino, Eugene Henderson, Ralph A. Hoot, Ralph Jaquinto, Fred Lieber, Anthony Lombo, Howard L. Mawson, Charles J. McKeever, Leroy C. Millard, Robert Mitchell, and Fred Mouzon.

Ralph Namoli, Vincent Primavera, Alexander Romano, Louis Rubin, Louis Savini, Leonard Silverstein, Charles Slaughter, Roy Somers, Edward J. Sweeney, Arnold J. Udstuen, Gustave Weaver, Robert Willard Jr., James A. Young and Kenneth Zitomer.

ONE-YEAR AWARDS

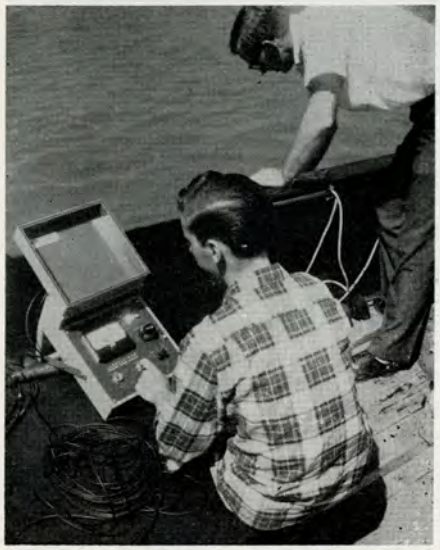
### One-Year Awards

Gerald E. Arnold, George Baxter, Fred Borrelli, Nathan N. Brown, Ralph Bruno, Michael Caggiano, Alfred Cardano, John A. Dillener, Benjamin DiTore, Salvatore DiVincenzo, Joseph A. Farrell Jr., Ernest Ferrero, Henry T. Fields, Robert C. Harris, Jr., Raymond Hodell, Wendell Jeffery, Leon Jones, Henry J. Kalinoski and Raymond N. Littlejohn.

Francis J. Malone, Frank Masino, William Mattes, Anthony E. McGinn, Robert G. Noccolucci, Nicholas Pasquella, Joseph Penczak, Bristol Peoples, Fred Plegge, Joseph Roch, Michael Romeo, William Shelton, Edward Shiffler, Walter Strehle, Charles Tongue, Angelo Torri, William Traynor, Anthony Vallone, William White and Stephen Williams Jr.

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. JUNE - JULY 1961

**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.**

## AGENCIES STUDY INFLUENCE OF SUNLIGHT ON FLUCTUATING CONDITION OF DELAWARE

Bottled sunlight is being collected from the Delaware River by a team of research men working the midnight 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 MUnicipal 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 MUnicipal 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

Published Bi-Monthly By
THE WATER DEPARTMENT

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| Design (Hydraulic) | John Mirkil |
| Design (Main Sewers) | Mario G. Celoni |
| Design (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
| Design (Specifications) | Joseph Mair |
| Design (Structural) | Morris Siegel |
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| Mechanical Engineering | Harry Myers |
| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo, Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | Irwin Baskin |
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| Delaware Division | Stanley Zagnojny |
| Southeast Works | Ernest Craig |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Operations Office | Sylvia Weiss |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Ronald Still |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


## 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.*

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.

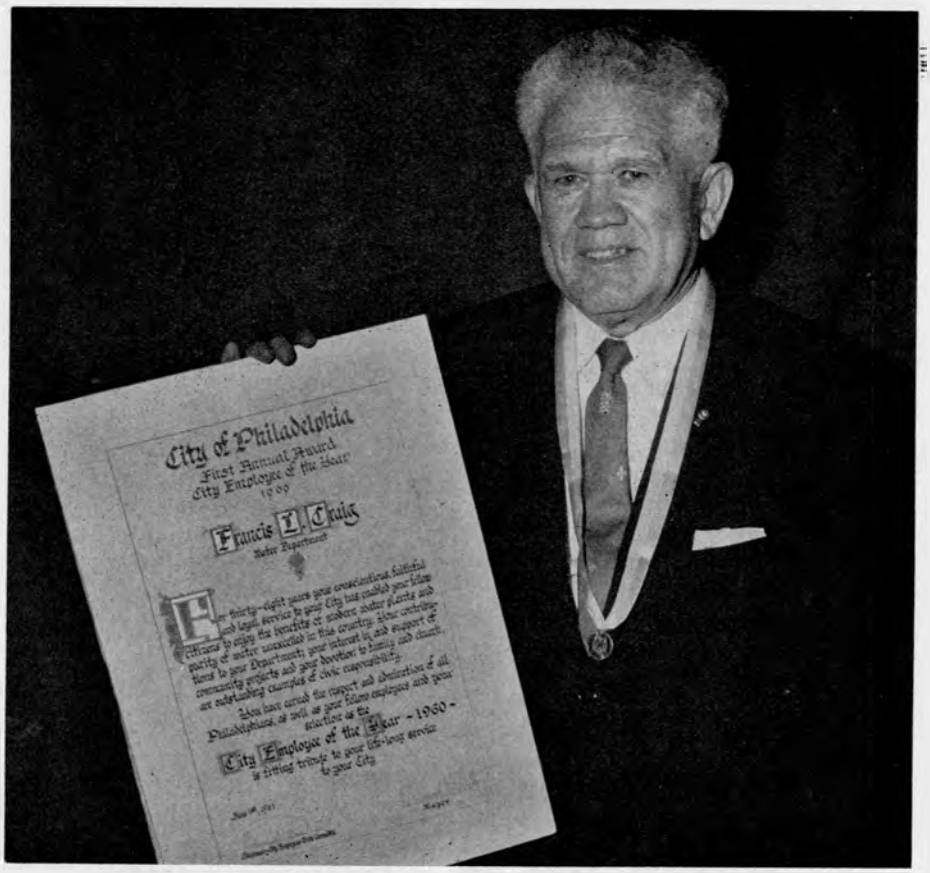
*Office Practices:* Georgiann Harrell, Meter Shop; Kathleen Hunt, Distribution.

*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.*

**TWO MEN WITH IDEAS ARE MORRIS PIROLLI (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.**




**FRANCIS L. CRAIG, CIVIL SERVANT PAR EXCELLENT**

## *"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**

# 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 11¼ 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 sucessively 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. Connelly, and Joseph Lenzi. Riebel and Lenzi were repairmen, Everett an equipment operator, and Connelly 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.

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

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*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 goers 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.

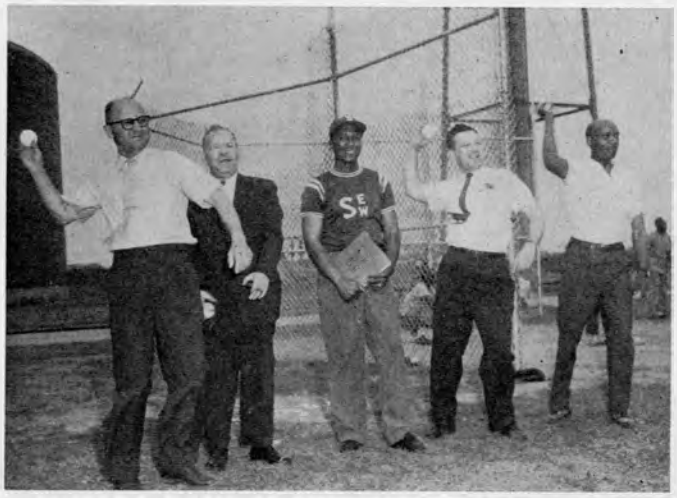
Among other Recreation Association privileges for amusement seekers this year:

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.

* * * * *

*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 Damnamics 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 damnamics. 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 access 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 coment 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."

# 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.

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*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

**Commissioner** ..... Samuel S. Baxter
**Editor** ..... Raymond J. Harris
**Editorial Assistant** ..... Mary Wolicki

**Feature Writer** ..... Rosemary Rosenthal
**Correspondent, Emp. Rec. Assn.** ..... Irwin Baskin
**Photography** ..... Fred Twers and Staff: Jack Marcus, John McWhorter, A. T. Mallis, Charles Bender, Edward Ebba

**Art** ..... Henry Cheatham

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|---|---|
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| Construction | Madeline Chiaravaloti |
| Customer Service | Lillian Greenfield |
| Design (Distribution) | Stanley Carroll |
| Design (Electrical) | Louis B. Sklar |
| Design (Hydraulic) | John Mirkil |
| Design (Main Sewers) | Mario G. Celoni |
| Design (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
| Design (Specifications) | Joseph Mair |
| Design (Structural) | Morris Siegel |
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| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo, Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | Irwin Baskin |
| Pumping—Schuylkill Division | Louis Soloman |
| Delaware Division | Stanley Zagnojny |
| Southeast Works | Ernest Craig |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Operations Office | Sylvia Weiss |
| 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.

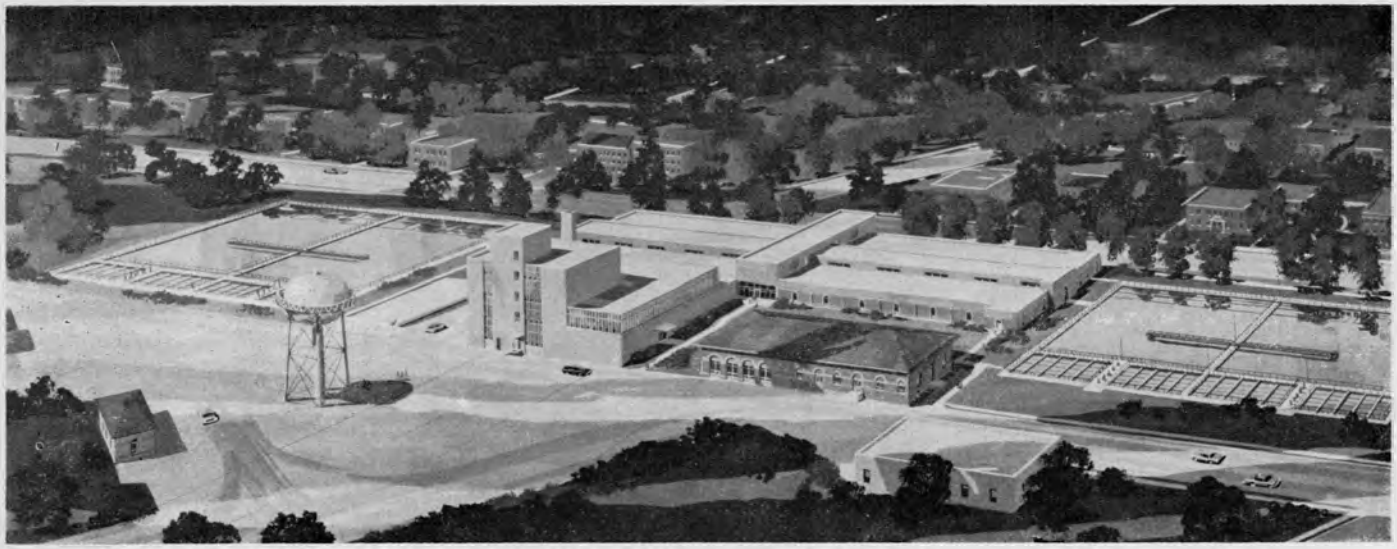
Mr. McGowan, who cultivated personally the good will of countless citizens in the last few years, plans to become a "gentleman of leisure." His co-workers in the Customer Service Section presented him an electric sawing machine to make this easier.

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

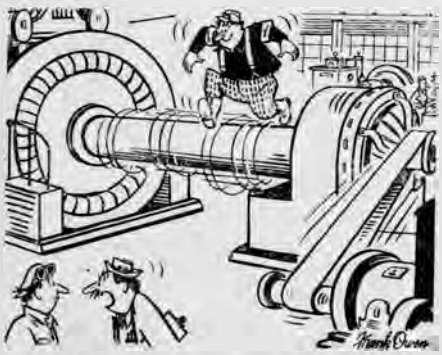
(Continued from Page 1)

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.**

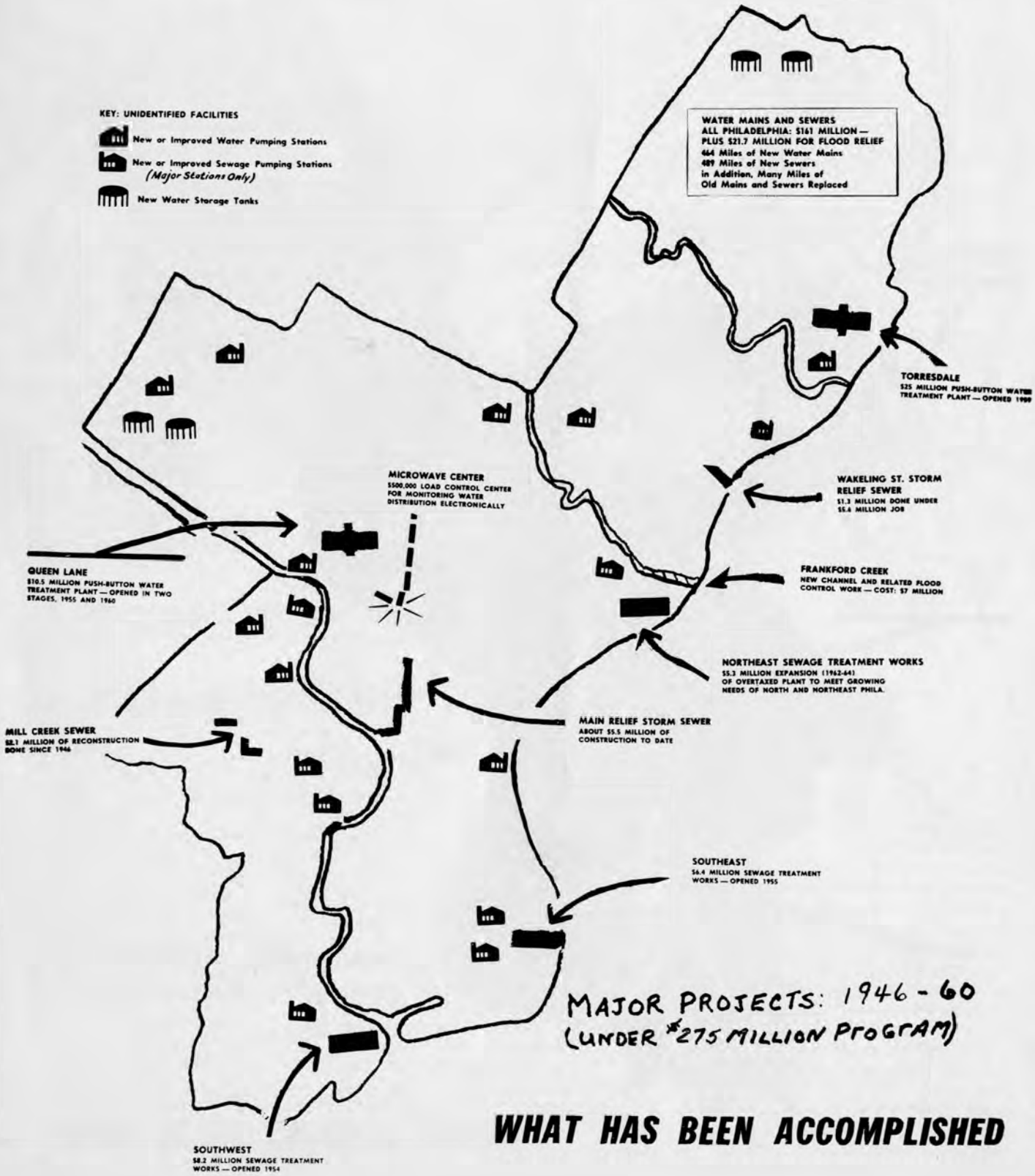
## VOTE FOR CITY LOANS

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.

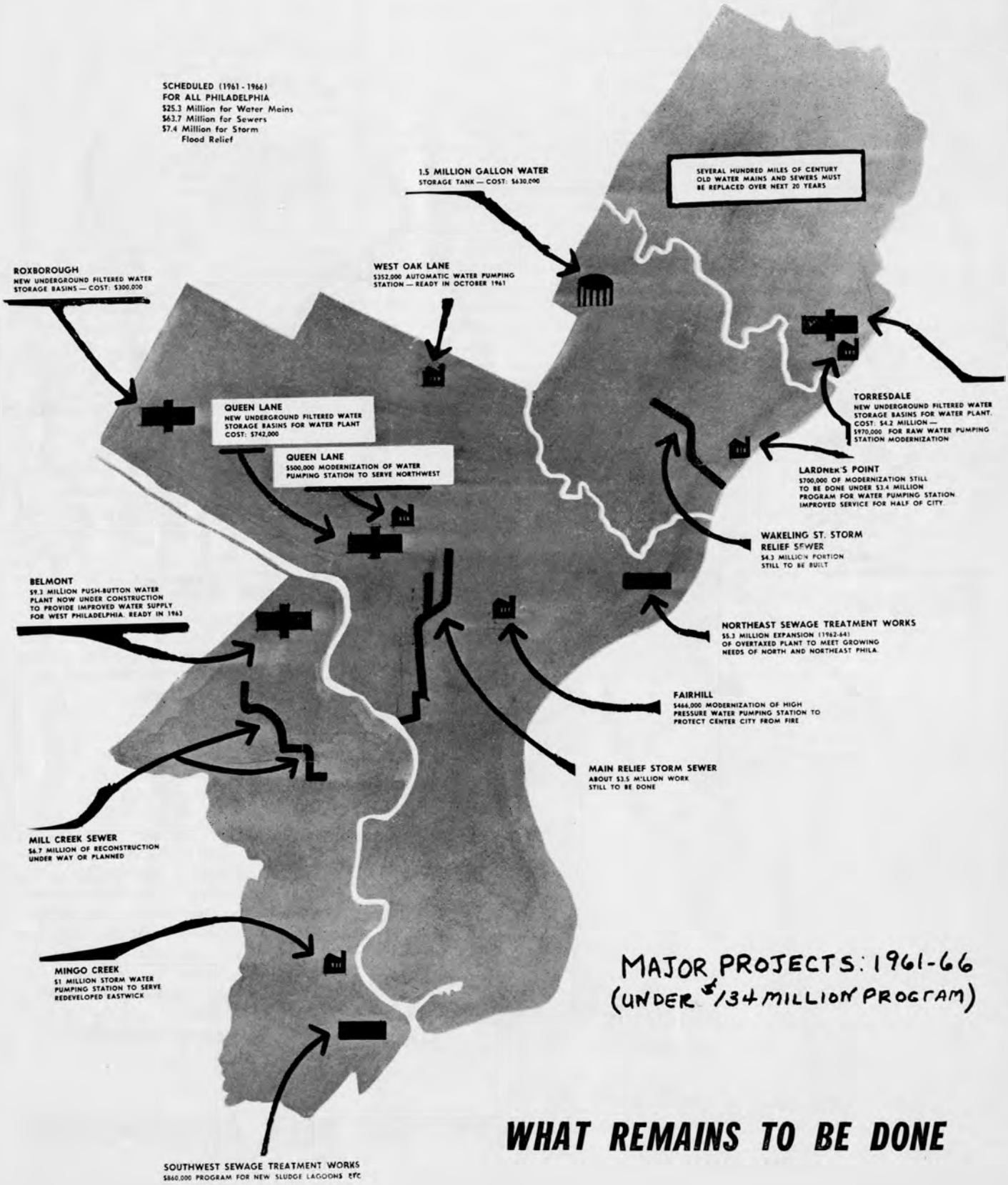
The many city wide projects will have an important effect on Philadelphia's future.

# WATER AND SEWERAGE MODERNIZATION




## WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED

# WATER AND SEWERAGE MODERNIZATION



# 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 OOO-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

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.

# 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.

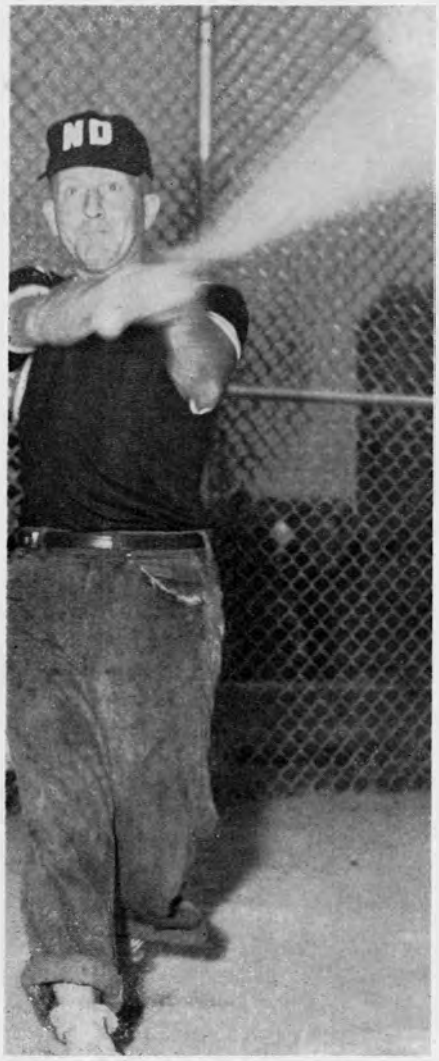
While not calling the love affair with motors entirely quits, Frank decided on a quieter life up at Pennsburg, where he has built a new home and can "sleep until nine o'clock in the morning."

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 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.

**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.**

**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.

# 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 MUnicipal 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.

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1961


## WATER ENGINEERS LEAD IN CITY CHESS TOURNEY

This is the time of year when neither snow nor sleet nor zero temperatures can cool off the chess war raging in Philadelphia. The Water Department's chess team is locked in a struggle with seven competitors for the championship of the Philadelphia Chess Association's Industrial League.

As of the time the *News* went to press, the Water Department team, composed of Design Branch and Materials Testing Laboratory engineers, had won four matches, lost none, and was leading the league.

On November 28 the engineers moved Westinghouse Corporation from second place down to third, and on December 12 they outthought Alco Oil and Chemical Corporation. Other teams faced, or to be faced, are Chester Pike, Blue Cross, Comegys Food Corporation, Eastern State Correctional Institution, and Philadelphia Electric Company.

Forming the department's first line team are: Gustave Van Nynatten, Al Trasoff, George Holmes, Fred Van Nynatten, and John Mirkil, captain. These are all experts, with years of experience behind them. Their next match will be with General Electric on January 16.

**ONE OF WINNING CHESS MOVES is made by Fred Van Nynatten, of Water Department, in match which upset Westinghouse Corporation. Westinghouse players Edward Tatios (center) and Louis Mayfield follow move.**

## ROXBOROUGH FILTER PLANTS TO END 60 YEARS OF SERVICE IN NORTHWEST

The two small Roxborough Water Treatment Plants will fade into history early next year after nearly 60 years of continuous operation.

Situated in one of Philadelphia's most scenic spots, amid sweeping lawns with large stands of trees only a stone's throw away, the two outworn plants are being "push-buttoned" into oblivion. Rejuvenated rivals—the new semi-automatic plants at Torresdale and Queen Lane—are ready to take over the old veterans' duties.

The 13 slow sand filter beds, built in 1902-03, will no longer be needed when the new Henry Avenue express main goes into service and water from the Queen Lane Plant is carried via the main to the filtered water basins at Roxborough. From these basins Queen Lane water will be distributed to the Roxborough-Manayunk-Chestnut Hill area.

### Shawmont To Go

With the closing of the slow sand beds, the huge raw water reservoir (147 million gallons) at the Upper Roxborough Plant will no longer be used. The half-century old Shawmont Pumping Station, located on the Schuylkill River at the foot of the hill occupied by the plants, will be closed down. Discontinued also will be the Roxborough Booster Pumping Station, which gives the river water from Shawmont an extra push up the hill.

Eventually Upper Roxborough's eight slow sand beds will be cleared of sand and gravel to form a 20-million gallon underground basin for storage of filtered water. This storage will supplement the existing filtered water basins—eight million gallons at Upper Roxborough and three million

(Continued on Page 3)

**LIKE DISCIPLINED SENTINELS the small buildings at left guard the underground filter beds at the Lower Roxborough Plant. Soon to close, the plant has a capacity of 10 million gallons of water daily.**

**WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS**
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THE WATER DEPARTMENT

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| Water Operations Office | Sylvia Weiss |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Richard Pinder |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


# A Tenth Anniversary

*Dear Employee:*

*Next month the Water Department will reach its 10th anniversary as a self-supporting public utility. Although Philadelphia's water system has a venerable history, stretching back 161 years, and its sewerage system is scarcely less old, the Water Department itself is still very young.*

*For our department—as for Philadelphia generally—these 10 years have been filled with stirring events. Our water and sewerage systems have been largely transformed into modern facilities, and the people of Philadelphia drink better water, receive improved service, and are surrounded by cleaner rivers.*

*Proud as I am of these achievements, I am even more proud of the engineers, technicians, staff personnel, skilled and unskilled employees who have done so much to make these achievements possible. Vital as new water plants and other modern facilities may be, it must always be well trained, dedicated employees who breathe life into such facilities and ensure the fine service to which the public is entitled.*

*Though much remains to be done, and though no doubt some things can always be done better by the department, you and your fellow employees have performed in a way that does credit to the department and to the City. Your recent splendid showing in the United Fund appeal is but another evidence of this.*

*For all of this, many thanks, and best wishes for the New Year.*

**Samuel S. Baxter**

# BASKETBALLS BOUNCE AS CONTEST DEEPENS

Basketballs are bouncing weekly at the Belfield Recreation Center, 21st Street and Chew Avenue, where a Water Department team is playing eight other teams for the championship of the Delaware Valley Industrial League.

The tournament, which started in November, will continue through March. Manning the ball for the Water Department are Edward Milburn, forward; Don Randell, forward; Tom Jones, center; Bruce Jant, guard; Mario Evanglist, guard; William Bayard, forward; Herbert Smather, guard. Captain of the team is Edward Milburn. The team is sponsored by the Employees' Recreation Association of the department.

Future department games include:

December 29, 9:00 P.M., United Engineering and Construction Company; January 5, 6:45 P.M., American Meter Company; January 12, 8:00 P.M., Philadelphia Gas Works; January 26, 9:00 P.M., Standard Pressed Steel Company; January 31, 6:45 P.M., Bell Telephone Company; February 9, 8:00 P.M., Supplee Biddle Stelz Company; February 16, 8:00 P.M., Cuneo Press; February 23, 6:45 P.M., United Engineering and Construction Company.

# WATER DEPARTMENT TORCHLIGHTS THE WAY AS IT TURNS IN 107% OF UNITED FUND QUOTA

For the second straight year the Water Department has won "torchlighter" rank in the United Fund drive, moving up alongside Philadelphia's most generous industries and business firms.

Contributing $26,537, or $6,220 more than last year, Water Department employees made up 107% of their $24,790 United Fund quota. Ninety-five per cent of the department's 1,574 employees contributed. For the department as a whole, this was $17.80 per employee.

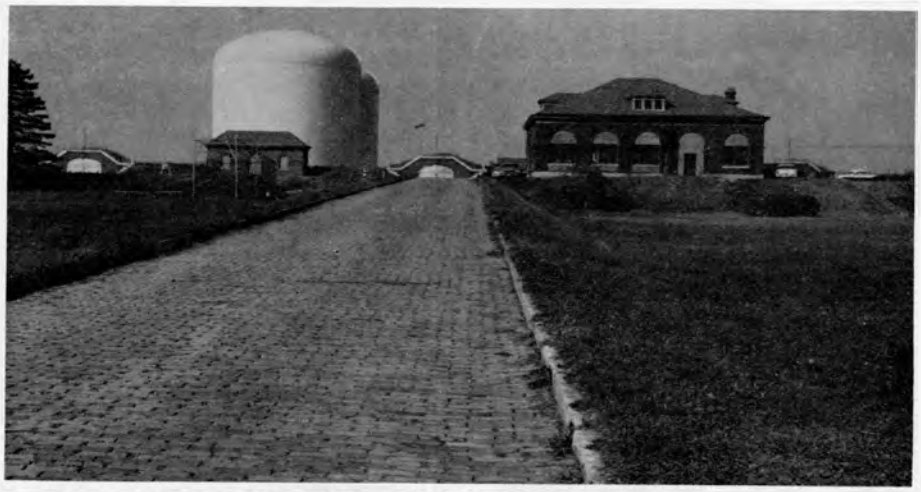
The department's liberal giving was part of an over all record set by municipal agencies this year. Approximately 92% of City, judicial, and allied county employees gave $255,167, or 24% more dollars than last year.

Joining the Water Department in torchlighter status were the Mayor's Office, the Civil Defense Council, the Office of the Managing Director, the Department of Recreation, and the Office of the City Treasurer. United Fund standards for selection of torchlighters included attainment of United Fund quota by October 31, shouldering by supervisory personnel of their fair share, at least 85% participation by employees, and an average employee donation of at least $15.20.


**TORCHLIGHTER AWARD won by Water Department gets feminine touch from Mrs. Dorothy Leary, secretary to Commissioner.**

In sheer dollars given, the Police Department—with $56,691—topped all other departments. About 99% of its 5,901 employees contributed. The Department of Streets, with 88% of its 4,231 employees giving, turned in $30,910.

**OLD SHAWMONT STATION, which pumps water uphill from Schuylkill River to Roxborough Plants, will follow plants into oblivion.**



**SLOW SAND UPPER ROXBOROUGH PLANT went into operation in 1903. Its sand beds will be cleared for underground water storage. Standpipes, built in recent years, will be retained.**

**LAST FEW FEET of four-mile Henry Avenue main await laying. Main will bring water from the Queen Lane Plant.**

## ROXBOROUGH PLANTS TO CLOSE IN 1962

(Continued from Page 1)

gallons at the lower plant. Retained will be the high service pumping station for filtered water, and two storage tanks.

Closing of the Roxborough water works is the final step in a tightly knit plan, which included the expansion and modernization of Queen Lane as well as the building of the four-mile Henry Avenue main. Related to all this was the building of express mains from the Lardner's Point Pumping Station across North Philadelphia into the Northwest, and the construction of the West Oak Lane Pumping Station . . . now nearly operational. Through the latter network Delaware River water, purified at the Torresdale Plant, will reach the Northwest, and in an emergency can be directed to the basins at Roxborough.

The shut-down of operations at Roxborough awaits installation of temporary pumps at Queen Lane, where the regular high service station is being reconstructed. The temporary pumps, which will pump water through the Henry Avenue main, are expected to be ready in February.

The Roxborough works, which have a combined capacity of 32 million gallons of water daily, are among the last of the slow sand plants built by Philadelphia in the early 1900's. The Torresdale and Queen Lane slow sand filters are no longer in use, and will be cleared to form underground water storage areas. The Belmont Plant is now undergoing complete reconstruction.

## AWWA NAMES JOHN CAPPIO TO NATIONAL SAFETY GROUP

John T. Cappio, safety officer, has been named to the safety practices committee of the American Water Works Association.

This national committee recommends improved safety practices to AWWA members, passes on safety awards, and distributes safety materials.

Active in local and state wide safety affairs, Mr. Cappio has been with the Water Department for nearly five years. He was previously safety engineer for the Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton Corporation.

**A PONDEROUS MOMENT is reflected in faces of Water Department chessmen John Mirkil, George Holmes, and William D'Orazio (l. to r.) as they face Westinghouse Corporation players Louis Mayfield and Frank Seningan across the table. No one sleeps since clocks on the table time the moves.**

# DIRT TO FLY SOON FOR CITY OFFICES

The new Municipal Services Building, which will be the future "home" of 2,800 City employees working in center city, will be launched with a ground breaking ceremony January 23 on Reyburn Plaza.

The Water Department will become involved almost immediately in the work. A number of water and sewer lines in the area must be relocated. Relocation of these and other utility lines will precede actual building construction, which will begin next May or June.

For the public and City employees alike the new building should offer large benefits.

City services will be brought closer to John Q. Citizen than ever before, through a huge Public Service Concourse where applications, licenses, permits, bill payments, etc. will be centralized. At a score of counters and desks, employees will be able to service 2,000 persons at one time, eliminating the need for Philadelphians to make confusing and time consuming trips to scattered offices. Behind the counters will be areas for more detailed work, such as processing of applications and searching of records.

For City employees the new building will be an attractive place to work. Off-white in color, shaped like a Greek cross, its cut-out corners will provide natural lighting for nearly every office. Natural light will reach even the Public Service Concourse located below street level. Twelve automatic elevators will serve the building, which will have 16 office floors, a two-floor lobby, and, at the top, two floors of equipment.

Occupying 25% of Reyburn Plaza, the office tower will be constructed of reinforced concrete, with 32 primary supporting columns. Fire proof, it will have a combination heating-air conditioning system, automatically controlled the year around. Exterior faces will be of precast stone panels, with windows projecting to give a richly embossed pattern. The "sandwich" windows, consisting of two panes of glass five inches apart, will have useful features: the intervening space will insulate the building and will accommodate a vertical blind: the outer pane will be bronze tinted to reduce glare.


Dear Contributors:

Many thanks for the fine stories which so many of you wrote for the *News* in the past year. You may not always have seen the full text in print, but you certainly kept the *News* and the editor well fed. So don't be discouraged.

The portrait above is more symbolic than real. It symbolizes the inner conflicts of every editor when he is faced with a story. If he bites off a piece now and then, this is merely to relieve his tensions and improve the quality of the product.

So keep the stories flowing in. Meanwhile, Happy New Year.

THE EDITOR

# PERSONAL NOTES

**Torresdale**

Best wishes to Frank Tiano, mechanic on the marriage of his eldest daughter Antoinette, October 21.

Congratulations are in order for Theodore Baruch, chemist. On October 7, 2:29 A.M., a little girl, 6 lbs. 15½ oz., was born into the Baruch household.

Torresdale welcomes John Guthrie, chemist I, to its payroll.

Best wishes go with Vincenzo Fiorino, laborer, who retired after 15 years of loyal service.

We wish to express our sympathy to Louis Breitenbach, mechanic helper, whose father, Joseph, of Toms River, N. J., passed away on November 4.

**Administration**

Congratulations are in order for Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Starr on the birth of their sixth child and fifth daughter—Karen Mary. Karen was born on September 28 and weighed six pounds, 11 ounces. We also wish them good luck on the recent purchase of a larger house in the Northeast.

**PROMOTED**

**VINCENT J. MERCALDO**
Chemist I

**JOSEPH H. STELLABOTTE**
Mechanical Engineer II

# RECREATION GROUP OFFERS 1936 VALUE FOR 1961 BUCK

**New members are being sought by the Employees' Recreation Association. For one dollar in annual dues the association offers:**

**Participation in baseball, basketball, bowling, golf, fishing trips, chess and checker tournaments . . . discounts for special movies, Eagles' games, and other events.**

**New attractions for the future: Quoits, chess, checkers, darts, and other games during lunchtime. Also $2 tickets in place of the usual $2.50 charge for "El Cid," motion picture, January 18, 8:30 P.M., Goldman.**

**JOYCE FICCHI**
Clerk-Typist II

**AGGIENORA HARRISON**
Clerk II

# DEPARTMENT PROMOTES SIXTEEN APPOINTS MONAGHAN SUPERVISOR

John J. Monaghan, of the Customer Service Section, has been promoted to field representative supervisor. He is one of 16 employees advanced to higher civil service positions in recent weeks.

As field inspector and then as field representative, Mr. Monaghan performed the many chores which fall to the lot of Customer Service men—from inspection of new water installations to checking of drainage leaks. Residing at 1402 South Allison Street, he has been with the Water Department since 1952.

Back at his old job as a filter plant foreman is William T. Crouse, Jr., 5341 North 5th Street, who has been transferred to the Belmont Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Crouse accepted a voluntary, but temporary, reassignment as a labor foreman a year ago because of the necessary reduction of personnel.

Other promotions include:

*Construction Branch:* Richard Mariani, from public works inspector II to civil engineer I, and Frank Coaxum, Jr., engineering aide I to II.

*Distribution Section:* John T. Catalano, from water distribution foreman to supervisor; Charles A. Parks, from trainee to water distribution repairman; Lee Randell, Jr., from laborer to water distribution repairman; Leon A. Wilson, from laborer to repairman trainee; Aggienora Harrison from clerk I to II.

**JOHN J. MONAGHAN**
Field Representative Supervisor

*Northeast Sewage Works:* Jackson Walker, from laboratory technician to chemist I, and Willie McIllwain, from laborer to plant helper.

*Various Units:* Joseph H. Stellabotte, Design Branch, from mechanical engineer I to II; Miss Joyce A. Ficchi, Accounting Section, from clerk-typist I to II; Walter L. Chavers, Sewer Maintenance Section, from laborer to sewer crawler; Leo J. P. Peyton, Customer Service Section, from field inspector I to field representative; Edward Shervin, Water Treatment Headquarters, from water treatment laboratory supervisor to sanitary engineer I; Vincent J. Mercaldo, Materials Testing Lab, from technician to chemist I.


**DIVERSITY OF WATER DEPARTMENT functions is expressed by William T. Crouse, Jr. (above), newly named filter plant foreman at Belmont, and Walter L. Chavers (right), who prepares to descend manhole to begin his new job as a sewer crawler.**


# COURSE TO FOSTER SAFER DRIVER HABITS

If the Water Department has anything to do with it, the vehicular accident rate in Philadelphia will drop at least a notch next year.

With the cooperation of the Police Academy, the department is sponsoring a safe driver course for more than 200 of its employees. The two-day course, attended by eight employees weekly, will be conducted at the academy over the next few months. Every Water Department employee who regularly operates a City vehicle will be put through the course.

The purpose of the instruction is to correct and improve driving habits.

Under the leadership of Superintendent James J. McNamee, 10 academy instructors give "students" several hours of classroom work, and this is followed by tests of skill in the operation of Water Department vehicles.

While—for more effective teaching purposes—the details of the course are not disclosed to students in advance, it is reported that classroom instruction includes driver attitudes, physical laws affecting vehicles, sound driving practices, driver reaction time, and braking distances. Eyes are tested from "A" to "Z," with a few extras, such as depth perception, thrown in for good luck.

### Test Skills

Driving skills are observed in the calm of the paved courts around the Torresdale Plant's old slow sand filters. Since some obstacle courses are included to test the unerring eye and the steady hand, the quiet is appropriate. Instructors, however, do not look for driving marvels, but counsel students on how to improve their driving practices. The big wind-up of the two-day session is a road test over a designated route.

Police Academy instructors are Captains Harry G. Merker and William G. Collins, Sergeant John C. Greer, and Policemen Warren Claus, Herbert Atkinson, William Barclay, John Dietrich, John McKendry, Elmer Palmer, and Robert Simpson. Safety Officer John T. Cappio and Acting Personnel Officer Cornelius J. O'Kane represented the Water Department in setting up the course.

Why all the fuss about safe driving? One reason is statistical: During the first 11 months of 1961, Water Department vehicles were involved in 98 accidents. This statistic, it is felt, could have been lower, had some driving habits been safer.

**SAFE DRIVER CLASS gets pointers from Police Academy instructor John McKendry (upper left) as part of Water Department safety program. Instructor William Barclay (above) checks parking alignment of "student" Angelo Sticco, while at right instructor Robert Simpson watches another student back up to simulated loading dock.**

**SAFETY ENGINEER JOHN CAPPIO (right) and George Truman, president of Philadelphia chapter, accept American Society of Safety Engineers' Chapter Achievement Award from George Gorbell (center), national president, in Chicago.**

# EMPLOYEES TRADE IDEAS FOR DOLLARS

The turn of a key brought fortune to two money wise employees in the past month, while another shrewd employee cleaned up with a fire hose.

George W. Gilbert and Angelo Torrie won $15 each from the City's Central Suggestion Awards Board for inventing new keys, while John Roberts received $25 for suggesting a novel use for the hose.

The keys may sound trivial, but in fact they are little giants. Mr. Gilbert, a water distribution supervisor, thought that the solid steel keys (often six feet and more long) used to operate water main valves were a bit of a headache. Heavy and cumbersome, the longer ones couldn't be carried in compact trucks or passenger cars. When valves were buried very deep, a special truck had to bring the needed key. Mr. Gilbert tried his hand at designing a new key, 50% lighter, in short lengths that can be assembled anywhere and carried in any type of vehicle. His idea worked. Result: A saving in time and money.

Angelo Torrie, field representative for Customer Service, had similar thoughts about the six-foot keys used to open and close curb stops, which control the water flow through pipe lines entering homes. He devised a new key in two sections which can be assembled or disassembled as needed . . . thus solving the transportation problem.

Pipes which carry lime solutions at the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant often became blocked and only a sewer cleaning machine operated by two specialists could unblock them. That is, until John Roberts a mechanic at the plant, suggested use of a fire hose to flush out the lines. Not only did his idea work but it reduced unblocking time from eight hours to two. Moreover a fire hose is now used regularly to prevent blocking . . . a feat the sewer cleaning machine could not perform.



**TWO LOYAL SCOUTERS receive honors from the Boy Scouts' Schuylkill District. Above, Scout Executive Curtis Bradley presents a gently humorous "biographical" sketch to Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter in recognition of his busy life as water commissioner, City emergency coordinator, Schuylkill District chairman, and community leader. At right Bradley presents a small statuette to Walter Clark, division engineer in the Water Department's Construction Branch. Mr. Clark headed a committee which organized 12 new Scout units for the district.**

## HIRE 19 RECRUITS FROM MERIT LISTS

Nineteen new employees have been hired by the Water Department in the past two months. Appointed from civil service lists, they are:

*Customer Service Section:* Vernon Gilmore and Mrs. Carrie G. Sumbler, clerk-typist II; Mrs. Betty S. Butts, clerk-stenographer II; Miss Francine M. Cannon, clerk-typist I; and Fred Wright, field inspector I.

*Sewer Maintenance Section:* John Boerner, maintenance foreman I; Ronald Headen, Edward C. Lassiter, Jr., and John R. Kelly, laborer.

*Distribution Section:* Miss Sharon L. Downs, clerk-typist I, and David Downing, laborer.

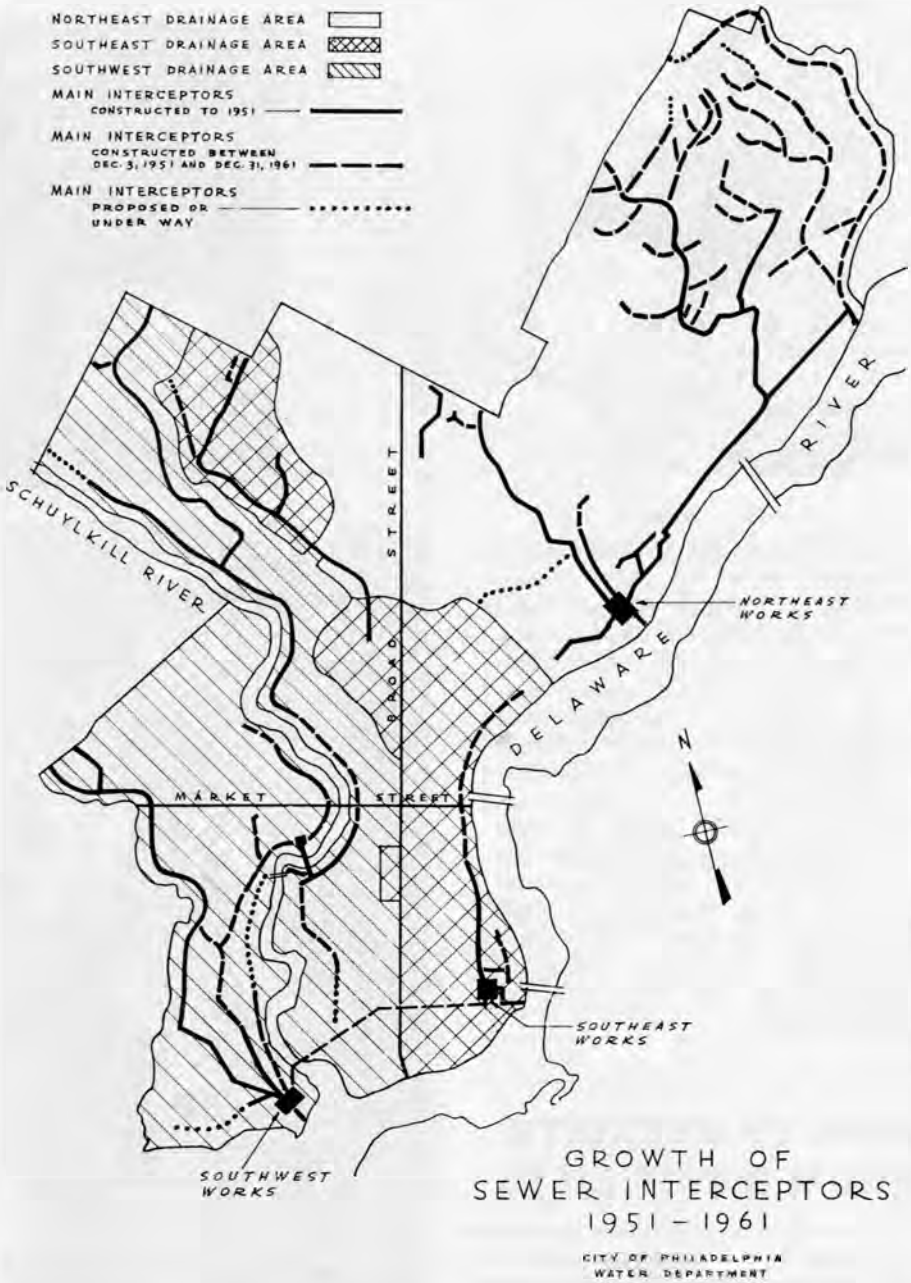
*Northeast Sewage Works:* Nathaniel Williams, laborer; Daniel J. Macrino, maintenance mechanic II; and Edward L. Dwyer, machinist.

*Other Units:* Miss Viola Pelson, clerk-typist I, Plant Maintenance Section; Miss Doris J. Wright, clerk-typist I, Administrative Services office; Miss Lois A. Jenkins, clerk-stenographer II, Accounting Section; John M. Guthrie, chemist I, Torresdale Water Plant.

## MANY THANKS

**I desire to express my gratitude and sincere thanks to my many friends in the Water and Streets Department for the luncheon honoring my retirement after more than 50 years with the City.**

**MERVIN H. KOHLER**




# SEWAGE PLANTS GET RECORD FLOW IN 1961

One of the success stories of 1961 is measured in sewage.

More sewage entered Philadelphia's sewage treatment plants in 1961 than ever before. The daily average, according to advance estimates, is about 370 million gallons . . . a rise of 15 million gallons daily over 1960 and 52 mgd over 1959.

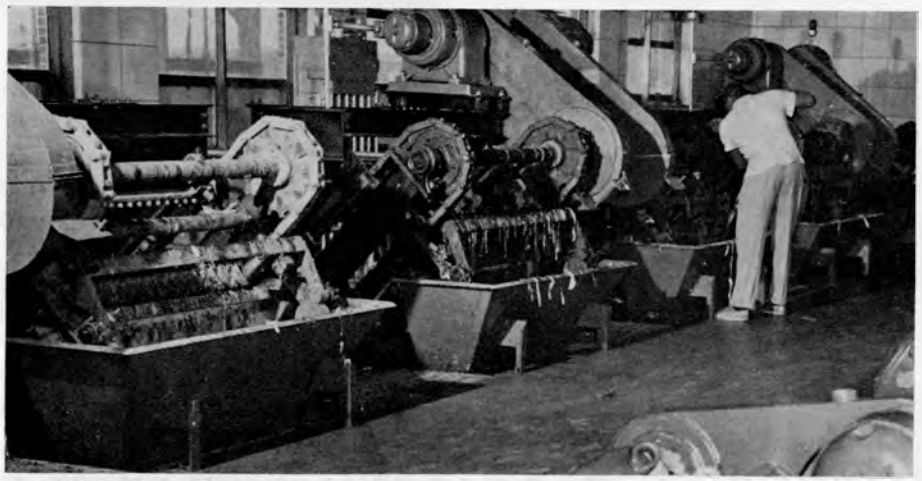
In a 10-year period the flow of sewage to the plants has climbed by 287 million gallons daily.

Where did that sewage go in 1951? As every Philadelphian with a sensitive nose knows, it went into the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers, along with large quantities of pollution from other sources.

In 1951 Philadelphia opened the new Northeast Sewage Treatment Works. With both the old and new Northeast plants operating that year, the city treated only 82 million gallons of sewage daily. Today Philadelphia treats 97% of its raw sewage, besides millions of gallons daily from outlying communities with which it has agreements.

In the intervening years, two more modern sewage plants have gone into service, as well as 55 additional miles of interceptor sewers to divert the sewage to the plants. With further additions to the interceptor system in the next year along the lower Schuylkill, the remaining 3% of untreated sewage will be picked up.

Looming in 1962 is the expansion at the Northeast Plant, where an additional aeration tank, four additional final settling tanks, and new air blowers will be built. The $5 3 million expansion will raise the plant's daily capacity to 175 million gallons.



**BUSY PLACES are the city's sewage treatment plants. At the Southwest Works, the mechanical bar screens (above) remove sticks, rags and leaves from incoming sewage. Constant check on effectiveness of treatment is kept by Leon Taylor, chemist (right).**

**ARTHUR J. COLA**
**Retires**

# THREE EMPLOYEES RETIRE AFTER 102 YEARS OF WORK

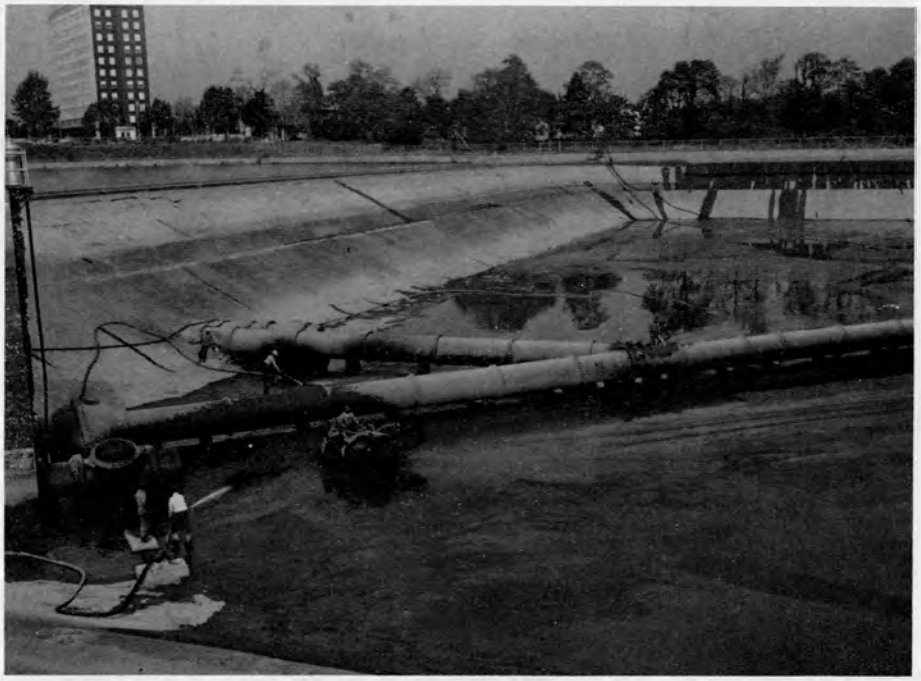
Retired in recent weeks were three veteran employes with 102 years of City service among them.

Heading the list is Arthur J. Cola, 61, one of the Belmont Water Treatment Plant's best filter works foremen. A conscientious supervisor, popular with his fellow workers, Mr. Cola completed more than 39 years with the Water Department and its predecessor, the old Water Bureau.

Starting work at Belmont in May, 1922, as a laborer, he rose successively to sand washing machine operator and filter operator. In December, 1942, he was assigned to the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant as a labor foreman, and by 1953 he had become a filter plant foreman. Later he was transferred back to Belmont. Mr. Cola lives at 2213 South 17th Street.

Another member of the long service club is George J. Biles, 60, of 2853 Knorr Street. Mr. Biles, a water distribution repairman, started work with the Water Bureau 36 years ago as a laborer. He worked later as a caulker, and in January, 1943, he was appointed a subforeman of water main repairmen. Prior to his City service he worked at the Philadelphia Paper Company.

Jesse Upshur, 68, of 2319 North 27th Street, has wound up 17 years as a laborer in the Water Distribution Section. He was employed for 10 years previously in the Department of Streets.



**FOUR FEET OF SEDIMENT are bulldozed and flushed from one of the two large raw water reservoirs at the Belmont Water Treatment Plant. The reservoirs, which hold 36 million gallons each, are cleaned in alternate years.**

# TIPS ON GARDENING

**By Elwood Unruh**
**Gardener, Torresdale Plant**

In our part of the country, the winter time can be a time of frustration. For gardeners, this is particularly so. But growing plants inside relieves the bleakness out of doors tremendously.

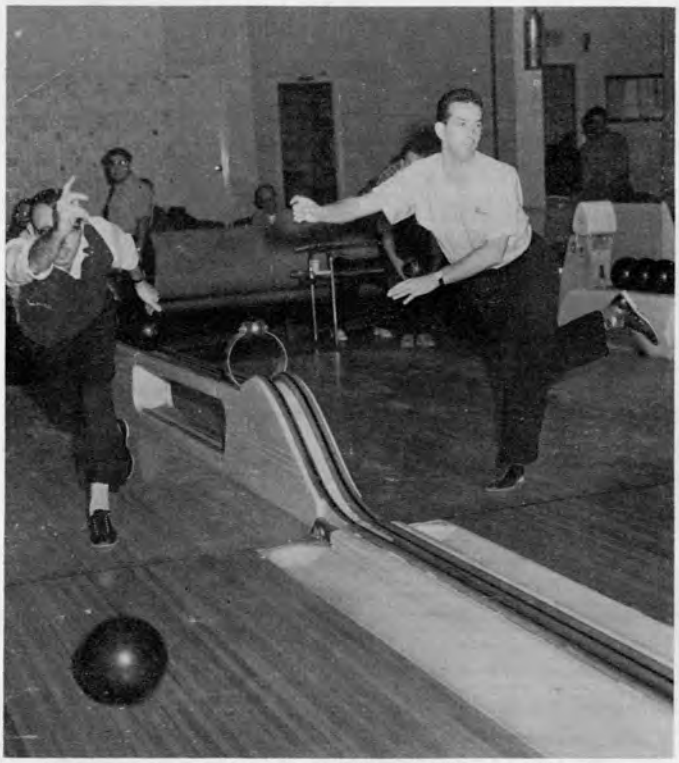
I've never kept score, but I think it fairly accurate to say that of all the questions asked of me concerning indoor plants, seventy-five percent relate to African violets. There are many varieties of these fine little plants and the hobby of their culture is interesting and rewarding. However, there are many other plants, both flowering and those grown for their foliage alone, that are interesting.

Here at Torresdale we maintain a good supply of ivy, coleus, lantana, impations, fiberous begonia, citrus, and some winter flowering bulbs. A large sunny room is used for propagating and raising the potted plants and some fifty plants are distributed in office windows and the main filter gallery. When plants get leggy-certain kinds have this habit-or when a few get droopy from being closed up in an office over the weekend, they are replaced from the supply mentioned above.

### In The Home

For the house or apartment dweller the same routine can be used on a much smaller scale. A few generalities should be kept in mind. Modern homes are low in humidity; so small containers of water should be placed around the plants to increase the moisture content of the air, or other arrangements made. Flowering plants must have a certain amount of sunlight. Most brightly colored foliage plants lose their brilliance if kept too long out of the sun. On the other hand, there are many large leaved plants, native to the jungle, which thrive best in dimly lighted rooms. To sum it all up the biggest set back in raising plants in the home is lack of humidity: overwatering does not correct this. Several plants in a group will do much better than one or two "loners." They create their own humidity.

Variety stores, super markets and florist shops are the source of supply for many kinds of plants. If a well stocked florist shop is discovered, you're in luck, for such a shop has variety and valuable information.



**AS RHYTHMICAL as ballet dancers are members of the Design Branch's bowling team, now battling other units for the department championship. At left, Mark Lalli and Fred Miami (l. to r.) show how it's done, while, above, Al Strouse and Mark Lalli exhibit perfect coordination. Tony DiLuzio, right, also has a twist or two.**

## *MERVIN KOHLER RETIRES TO BECOME CONSULTANT*

On November 15 the Water Department lost an old, familiar face, Mervin H. Kohler, retiring after 50 years of City service.

Merv left his desk in the Design Branch to take up other engineering duties on his own as a consultant. He has high hopes of donning a hard hat and getting into the field on foundation problems, pile driving, etc.

He began his tenure of service in May of 1911, with the old 10th Survey District as a chainman at the fabulous sum of $480 per year. Except for a period of army service in World War I, Merv's City service has been consecutive with various titles up to civil engineer IV (design) . . . a career to be proud of.

All the members of the Water Department wish him well.

**J. F. Mair**

## NAME RICHARD STARR TO TOP SPOT

Richard Starr, who heads the new water and sewer systems planning unit, has been promoted from civil engineer III to IV.

Mr. Starr, who took over the new unit in August, is busier than in many a crowded day. With a staff of four, he studies the hydraulic requirements for new water and sewer lines, as well as for the replacement or cleaning of old ones. His unit's plans will form the basis for much future capital budgeting as well as for the detailed drawings of the Design Branch. The need for work, together with routes and sizes, will be studied by the unit.

Dick will continue to report to Assistant Chief Engineer John Briggs, whose liaison man he was for several years. Before entering the Water Department in 1957, Dick had a varied municipal engineering career reaching back to 1945 when he joined the old Department of Transit as a junior engineering field aide. Later he became section engineer for construction on a portion of the Market Street subway (Department of Public Property), headed design for the Division of Port Operations, and was executive director of the Streets Department's committee on subterranean voids.

**RICHARD STARR**

With a B.S. in structural engineering from Drexel Evening College, he is a registered professional engineer and surveyor. Married with three children, he lives at 1040 Tomlinson Road.

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. FEBRUARY-MARCH, 1962


**RELAXED CHESS CHAMPS demonstrate moves which won the top trophy in the Philadelphia Chess Association's Industrial League. (L. to r.) Al Trasoff, George Holmes, Richard Kraft (alternate), Fred Van Nynatten, Gustave Van Nynatten, and John Mirkil. The champions are Water Department engineers.**

## *WATER DEPARTMENT WINS SEVEN MATCHES TO TAKE PHILADELPHIA CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP*

In seven victorious matches, with never a defeat, Water Department players have captured the championship of the Philadelphia Chess Association's Industrial League.

Battling against some of the ablest chess players in the area, the department's team downed the Philadelphia Electric Company January 16, knocked a really tough opponent (Eastern State Correctional Institution) from the boards February 10, and overthrew Chester Pike February 19.

Other rivals defeated were Westinghouse Corporation. Alco Oil and Chemical Corporation, Comegys Food Corporation and Blue Cross.

Not only did the Water Department win its matches, but four of the five top individual player standings in the league were won by its team members. Al Trasoff emerged in first place with six wins and one draw; George Holmes and Fred Van Nynatten picked up the third and fourth spots with six victories and one loss; while John Milkil, team captain, had five wins, one loss and a draw. Second place was captured by Howard Brockway, of Comegys Food Corporation, with six victories and no losses. The champions will receive the John F. Harbeson Chess Award at the Philadelphia Chess Association's annual banquet May 18.

## WATER MEN TO HOLD NATIONAL MEET HERE

Three thousand water works engineers will converge on Philadelphia in June for the 82nd Annual Conference of the American Water Works Association. With them will come 1,000 wives.

The gathering, which comes as the climax to a decade of Philadelphia water system rebirth, will feature many topics of country wide interest, ranging from the salvation of the nation's water supplies to conversion of salt water, and from advanced methods of stream study to the new Delaware River Compact.

An impressive array of water experts will conduct the sessions, and several speakers of national standing will appear.

Host for the conference, which will be held at Convention Hall from June 17 to 22, will be the Pennsylvania section of AWWA, but the Philadelphia Water Department is playing a leading role. Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter is chairman of the local arrangements committee.

### Committee Members

Other members of the committee are: Victor A. Appleyard, executive director of the Chester Municipal Water Works Authority; Deputy Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold, of the Philadelphia Water Department; J. J. Barr, president of the American Water Works Service Company, Philadelphia; George H. Dann, executive vice president of the Philadelphia Suburban Water Company; L. S. Morgan, chief engineer for the Bucks County Health Department and secretary of the Pennsylvania section of AWWA; Joseph O'Grady, vice president of the Rockwell Manufacturing Company; and C. V. Roberts, president of the Roberts Filter Manufac-

(Continued on Page 5)

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

Published Bi-Monthly By
THE WATER DEPARTMENT

*Commissioner, Samuel S. Baxter*

**Editor** ..... Raymond J. Harris
**Editorial Assistant** ..... Mary Schmidt

**Writers in This Issue** ... Elwood Unruh, Joseph Cooper, Richard Pinder, John Mirkil, Paul Siegel.

**Feature Writer** ..... Rosemary Rosenthal
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**Art** ..... Henry Cheatham

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| (Main Sewers) | Mario G. Celoni |
| (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
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| | Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Dorothy Kutys |
| Plant Maintenance | Irwin Baskin |
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| Delaware Division | Bonnie Dixon |
| Southeast Works | Ernest Craig |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Operations Office | Sylvia Weiss |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Richard Pinder |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


## CITY EMPLOYEES THRONG INTO TRAINING INSTITUTE

Classes are crowded this month in the Philadelphia Government Training Institute. More than 200 City employees have enrolled for the six and eight week courses, which began February 26.

One of the surprises is the strong appeal of the data processing course, which covers number and code systems, computers, data programming and other electronic era subjects. Thirty-seven employees signed up for the course, which is taught by Miss Judith Moss, chief of programming for the Office of the Finance Director.

No surprise are the 37 valiant souls who are tackling the advanced supervision course of B. Barney Palmer, Water Department administrative services director. Barney has some "lulu" problems for his students to unravel.

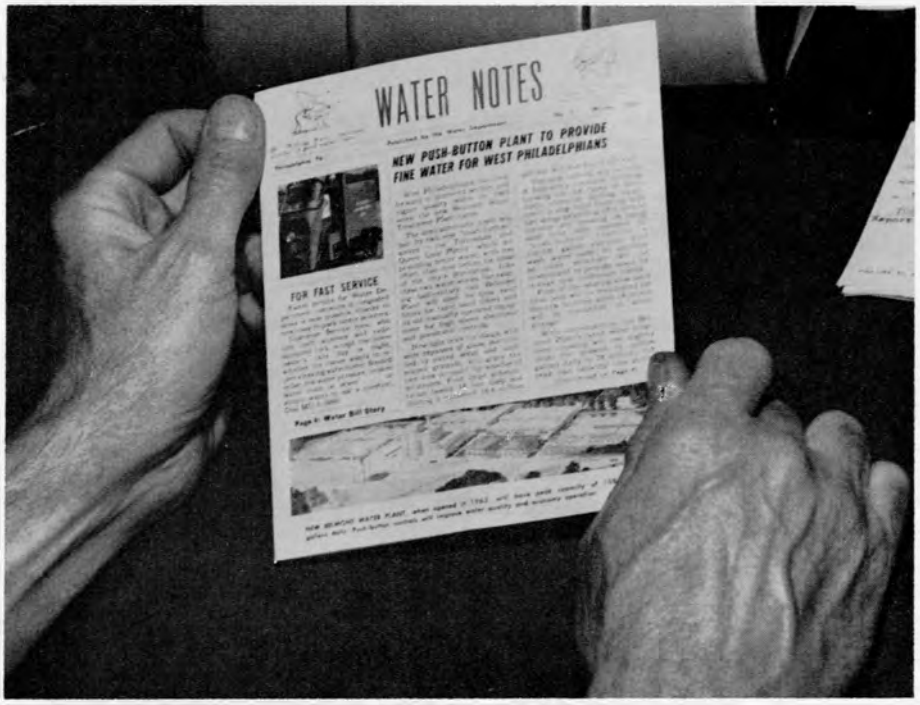
There are still many potential budget makers in the City, as the 59 enrollees in Deputy Finance Director Harry McDowell's ever popular budget course testify. B. Russell Franklin, chief of training for the Department of Public Health, has 52 in his basic supervisory workshop.


## TORRESDALE PLANT PUSHES VISITOR TOTALS UP TO 35,000

Close to 500 visitors a month passed through the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant in 1961. Thus the 1960 average was maintained, bringing total visitors to 35,000 since the plant opened September 29, 1958.

About 75% of visitors in 1961 were public school groups from Philadelphia, Bucks and Montgomery Counties.

Noteworthy visitors included the South Jersey Water Superintendents' Association, the American Association of Safety Engineers (Philadelphia chapter), the Philadelphia Foremen's Club, and leading officials from 10 foreign countries.




## *MINIATURE NEWSPAPER TELLS 520,000 CUSTOMERS STORY OF CITY'S WATER AND SEWERAGE PROGRESS*

Facts about Philadelphia's water progress are reaching two million water customers in the form of a miniature newspaper entitled, "Water Notes."

The tiny four-page stuffer is being mailed out with current water and sewer bills to 520,000 homes and businesses.

Published by the Water Department, the first issue carries thumbnail sketches of the new Belmont Water Treatment Plant now being built in West Philadelphia, the improvements in the quality of the city's water during the past 10 years, the growing introduction of "push-button" controls into the water system, the nearly complete diversion of the city's sewage to the sewage plants, and the new water and sewer rates. The stuffer also tells how water customers can get fast service in a pinch. Photographs illustrate the items.

The stuffer is intended to inform customers about some of the improved plants and services which their water and sewer dollars are purchasing for them.

# EDWARD MILBURN STEPS UP TO RECREATION GROUP PRESIDENCY

Edward C. Milburn has been elected president of the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association for the coming year.

Mechanical stores clerk at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works, Ed has been active in the Recreation Association since its founding . . . as vice president, member of the board of directors, softball manager, etc.

He entered the Water Department in September 1955 after a stint with various private firms, such as Penn Elastic, Kaiser Metal, and Sarfert Hosiery.

Other newly elected officers are: Vice president, Richard Pinder, a sanitary engineer in the Quality Control and Research Section; secretary, Erwin Baskin, an engineering aide at the pumping station office (29th and Cambria Streets); and treasurer, Melvin Banks, accountant in the Accounting Section. The two are serving second terms.

New Vice President Richard Pinder entered the old Water Bureau in 1948 as an assistant chemist, and later became a full chemist. Dick has played a vital part in surveys of river pollution and in helping private firms to abate pollution nuisances. His sympathetic handling of Water Department customers has won him many laudatory letters and telephone calls.

The new officers were chosen by the association board of directors, as required by the organization constitution.

The association's current membership drive is continuing. Dues are one dollar a year, entitling the member to all benefits.


*"Wouldn't you rather go bowling with the fellows in the Employees' Recreation Association?"*

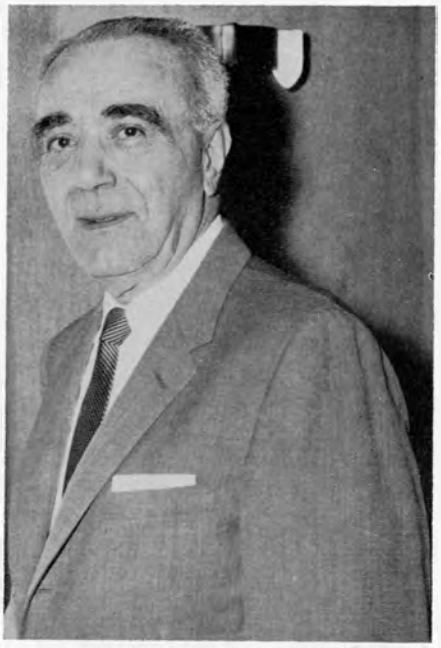
## CORNELIUS O'KANE TO AID CITY PERSONNEL DIRECTOR

Cornelius J. O'Kane, acting personnel officer, has been named assistant to City Personnel Director Foster B. Roser.

Mr. O'Kane, who entered the Water Department two years ago as training officer, has received a civil service promotion to personnel technician III. A graduate of St. Joseph's College, where he received a B.S. in psychology, he worked initially in the Personnel and Police Departments.

### DIPLOMACY HELPS

*Samuel Schwartz, assistant to Commissioner Baxter, is on his toes when it comes to public relations. Recently a customer walked in and said, "Do you remember my ugly face?" Unperturbed, Sam replied, "I remember your countenance."*



**MICHAEL LARIO, formerly of the Water Department's Design Branch, has been named duplicating supervisor of the Records Department's central duplicating unit. Mike, who was chosen from a civil service list, has been acting supervisor for the past year. He has a staff of four.**

**NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS of the Employees' Recreation Association—President Edward C. Milburn (right), and Vice President Richard Pinder—hold a tape recorder offered as the prize in a raffle recently conducted among association members to raise funds for recreational activities. William Schoettler, of the Northeast Sewage Works, held the lucky stub, drawn from a mass of 2,510 tickets.**

# THE AMAZING BACTERIA

**By Joseph E. Cooper, Chemist**
**Northeast Sewage Treatment Works**

Few things in nature are so unusual as bacteria, and if there is one place in this world where they are welcome it is a sewage treatment works. Bacteria are the unseen workers who keep a sewage plant going.

The alcohol, beer, cheese, and wine industries also owe their allegiance to bacteria, which perform some of their most vital processes. In fact, without bacteria, the human being would cease to exist, because part of our digestion is carried on by these microbes.

Yet how little is known by the average person about bacteria and their amazing lives. The statistics alone are bewildering.

If one bacterium is placed in a flask of the proper nutrients, and there are no adverse conditions, how many bacteria would there be in 10 hours, provided the bacteria split on schedule every 20 minutes? Answer: 1,073,741,824. What a family tree for one tiny fellow.

If this little guy's descendants are each one twenty-five thousandths (1/25000) of an inch long and they are set in a straight line end to end, how far would they reach? An impressive 3,523 feet, or seven-tenths of a mile.

If each bacterium weighs 2.2 billionths of a pound, his billion or so relatives will tip the scales together at 2.4 lbs.

How much space would this huge family take up? Only seventeen ten-thousandths (0.0017) of a cubic inch. They would scarcely cover the face of a dime.

### Bacteria Devour Sewage

Bacteria are indeed amazing, and it is some of their amazing characteristics that make them so valuable for a sewage plant. While the chemist in a water treatment plant tries to eliminate bacteria through filtration and chlorination, the sewage works chemist welcomes all bacteria and sees that they have a good home.

Bacteria have large appetites, and it is their appetite which helps to turn raw sewage into a harmless sludge. Multiplying them by the billions in a good environment is essential to the sewage treatment process.

One of the prime cares of the sewage works chemist therefore is to make sure that his small charges are well fed, and that they have a regular "physical" check-up. At the Northeast Works a number of interesting and useful facts can be determined about bacteria by using the Warburg Respirometer. With this machine it can be determined whether the bacteria are well fed or starved, active or lazy, sick or well.

How much food a bacterium eats, how much oxygen it breathes, and the amount of carbon dioxide it respires, form a fascinating study, and these characteristics are the basis of the trickling filter and the activated sludge sewage treatment processes.

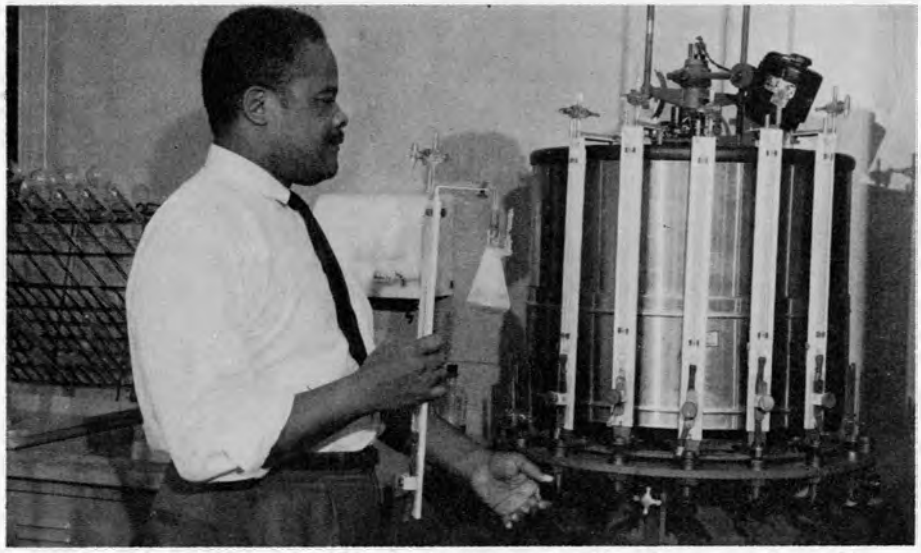
In general terms, there are two classes of bacteria: The "aerobes," which take oxygen from the fluid in which they swim, and the "anaerobes," which take oxygen from the food that they ingest. Some bacteria can obtain oxygen either way. Some bacteria thrive on the various sugars or carbohydrates, others on fats. Particularly amazing are those which thrive on sulfur and produce sulfuric acid as a waste product.

### Germs Earn Their Keep

At the Northeast Works the large, open aeration tanks offer food and oxygen for the aerobes (indeed air is pumped into these tanks constantly), while the closed digestion tanks provide a bountiful supply of food and carbon dioxide for the anaerobes. In these various tanks the bacteria are constantly at work, devouring and breaking down the sewage.

All living things give off waste products, and the bacteria at Northeast are earning their keep in this respect too. The "anaerobes" in our digestion tanks produce methane gas, which is used to heat the buildings of the sewage works. Some sewage plants in other cities use methane to power motors, which in turn drive electric generators. In Germany, methane gas from digesters is treated for removal of carbon dioxide and then bottled and sold. The sludge produced in the aeration tanks there is dried, packaged and sold for fertilizer, since it is high in plant nutriments.

Yes, bacteria are amazing. Some day—soon perhaps—they will make space travel possible for animals and man himself. Research grants are now financing studies for reconverting animal wastes to edible foods through the medium of the microbe—the amazing bacterium.



**AUTHOR JOSEPH COOPER checks up on health of sewage bacteria with a Warburg Respirometer. He can tell whether bacteria are well fed or starved, active or lazy, sick or well. The machine shows uptake rates, velocity constants, biochemical oxygen demand, etc. of activated sludge.**

A Well-Earned Retirement

No one begrudges Francis L. Craig his retirement from the city service, for he has served 39 years, faithfully and well. But there can still be regret that he cannot stay on, for he is the kind of employe always badly needed.

Craig has a record of saving the taxpayers' money, probably a cool million, in the operations of the Water Department's mechanical engineering section. Beyond that, he is one of the Bureau's aides who kept operations going during World War II, when replacement materials couldn't be had. And his ingenuity in thinking up alternative methods of water distribution, during the period since then, when the plants were being rebuilt, did much to get the water to the consumer as usual.

Many thousands of employes, good, bad and indifferent, enter government service each year. Some do the work they are supposed to do, and no more. Craig, to his credit, did more than he had to do, his colleagues told him at a luncheon they gave him this week. It is to be hoped that in the new crop of city employes are a few more Francis Craigs.

The Evening Bulletin

**IT'S A PROUD MOMENT for wives of two able employees as 100 colleagues do honor. Francis L. Craig (2nd from left), retired in merited glory as the Evening Bulletin carried an unprecedented editorial about him, reprinted above. Frank J. Keough (standing at right), came back from retirement to receive tributes to long service. Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter (center), offers good wishes.**

# MONEY SAVING FRANCIS CRAIG SAYS FAREWELL AS CHIEF OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SECTION

One of the City's leading money savers—Francis L. Craig—has retired after 39 years of municipal service. Mr. Craig, who headed the Water Department's mechanical engineer-section, was named the City's first "Employee of the Year" last June partly because of the hundreds of thousands of dollars which he saved the City.

Mr. Craig and Frank J. Keough, who retired last October as head of the Logan Garage, were honored recently at a luncheon by more than 100 colleagues.

Noted for a phenomenal memory and a quick grasp of engineering problems, Mr. Craig has been highly regarded throughout the department. Whenever some recondite bit of information was needed to answer a difficult question, the solution was always, "Ask Frank Craig."

**FRANCIS L. CRAIG (left), is welcomed to ranks of retired by George Levering, former city employee.**

Amiable and hard working, Mr. Craig kept Philadelphia's water and sewerage facilities going in the face of shortages of personnel and equipment during World War II. As a result of improvements which he fostered, the department has saved $500,000 yearly on pumping of water, and $500 a day on water treatment. Other savings were effected through his contribution to the development of the Load Control System.

To Frank Craig, starting his retirement at a youthful 62, we offer good wishes.

## AWWA CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 1)

turing Company in Darby.

Alternates are G. Garland for Mr. Barr, James Myers and Kenneth Shull for Mr. Dann, and Jesse Roberts for C. V. Roberts.

Mrs. Samuel S. Baxter will be in charge of women's activities.

The varied conference program will include a number of "nights": Get-together, June 17; honors and awards, June 18; a musical show, June 19; a banquet, June 21. Trips will be organized to local historical sites and to the Fairmount Park mansions.

Displays by water utilities and equipment manufacturers will be set up in the exhibition halls at the Convention and Trade Center. These will include several Water Department exhibits.

# TINY WATER SYSTEM FIGHTS MID-CITY FIRES

## Millions of Gallons At Touch of Button

Few Philadelphians know that their city has *two* water systems: One the giant regular system, the other a tiny high pressure system for protecting valuable real estate in central and north central city from fire.

The other day I stood in one of the two lone pumping stations belonging to the *tiny* system. It was at Race Street, only a skip and a hop from the Delaware River.

Suddenly a bell clangs . . . the engineer races for the huge, light dotted panelboard . . . he stands by, a finger on a panel button . . . "It's the Fairhill Station, up at 7th and Lehigh, answering an alarm," says Pumping Chief Harry Lopata. "Watch the pressure gauge overhead."

I look up at the big, clock-like gauge as its dial speeds from 50 lbs. to 175 lbs. per square inch. "Fairhill is filling the mains," says Lopata, "all 60 miles of them."

We wait breathlessly, but nothing happens. Again the alarm . . . it was only a standby . . . maybe an automobile burning. The dial overhead slowly sinks to 50 lbs. normal pressure as the water level in the system is lowered.

"What if it had been the real thing?" I inquire.

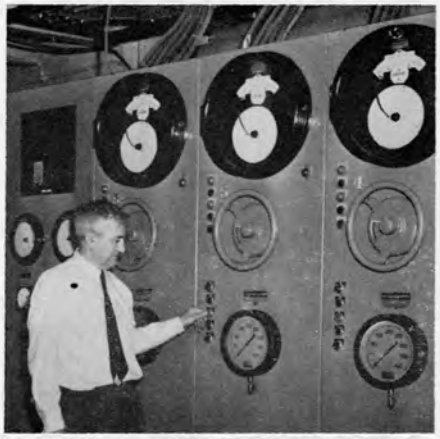
Lopata motions to Engineer Carl Zender, who pushes a button . . . a pump whirs, building up a head of water . . . the pressure climbs again as Zender rhythmically taps buttons . . . alternately opening and closing a valve . . . in a few minutes the pressure dial is up to 220 lbs. and a wall of water is moving through the mains.

"That's where we would keep the dial," says Lopata, "even if it meant starting all six pumps. The more fire hydrants there are in use, the more we have to fight to maintain the pressure. Big fires need a lot of water pressure."

Below, the water was rising from the river through two three-foot diameter mains, drawn up into the vacuum created by the pumps. "It's harder here than up at Fairhill," observes Lopata. "There we have a five million gallon raised reservoir. Gravity flow helps with the pressure, and less pressure is needed in the Fairhill district."

Suppose there had been a sizable fire? "The two stations can work separately in their own districts or support each other," notes Lopata, "but in either case the run might be a long one." Station personnel might face a grueling 40 hours, as happened with an eight alarmer in January; then eight million gallons flowed through the mains before the fire was brought under control . . . and even more hours were needed to wet down the smoldering embers.

"It can be a long fight," says Lopata. Modestly he doesn't even mention the Press Building fire (Dec. 28, 1956) when station pumps ran for a week.



**HIGH PRESSURE PUMP ROLLS as Chief Harry Lopata presses button (left), and sets pump speed (right), at Race Street Station.**

### 20 High Pressure Men

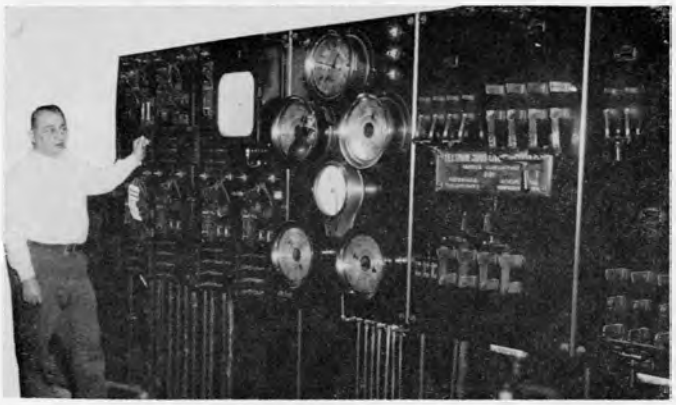
This tiny system, so vital to the mid-city, is manned by 20 persons, whose daily business is "pressure." In 1961 Race Street personnel alone responded to fires, alerts and false alarms an average of six hours a week. In addition there were test runs and the endless job of keeping equipment in top shape. Ingenuity is important. Lopata, for example, thought up an improvement to prevent pump bearings at Race Street from overheating, and his men are making the change.

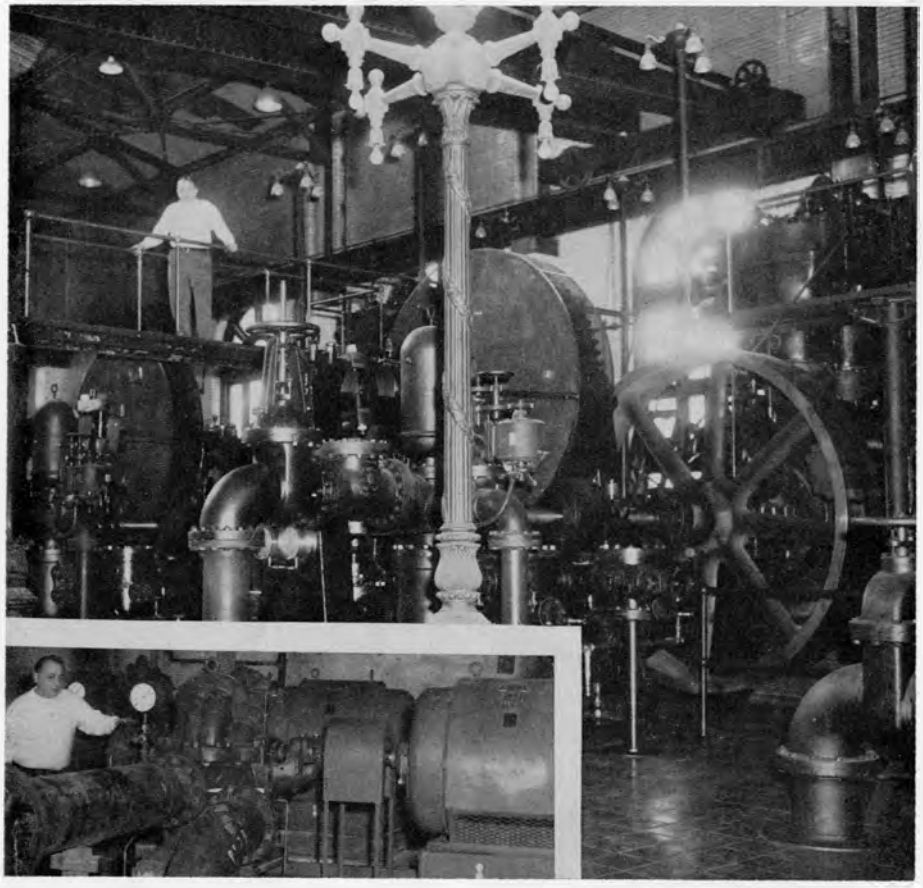
Split into four shifts, the eight engineers and eight operators—plus miscellaneous personnel—live in a world almost separate from the 14 pumping stations, 3,000 miles of mains, 67,000 valves, and 25,000 fire hydrants that make up the regular system. In their world are only two stations, 63.3 miles of mains, less than 1,900 valves, and scarcely more than 1,000 special hydrants. The stations are linked to the city's fire alarm network by bell,

*(Continued on Page 7)*

**ENGINEER CARL ZENDER opens discharge valve (above), while Engineer Timothy Hamilton inspects pumps (below), during trial run at Race Street.**

# MODERNIZATION MAKES TINY SYSTEM MIGHTY





**THE OLD IS GIVING WAY to many changes as a result of a $465,000 modernization now under way at the Fairhill High Pressure Pumping Station. At top left, Engineer William Schiavo looks over abandoned panelboard and compares it at top right with a new console panel. The latter controls new electric pumps (inset, left), which have replaced huge, gas driven pumps surveyed by Schiavo from mid-air walkway. Gas pumps will be removed. Fairhill's sister station at Race Street was modernized several years ago.**

## TINY WATER SYSTEM

(Continued from Page 6)

public address, and (at Fairhill) ticker tape.

Until a few years ago the "high pressure" men wrestled with one-story high gas pumps of half-century vintage, that were noted for ear splitting backfiring. Today the re-equipped Race Street Station has small compact, electrically driven pumps, manageable switchgear, and a panelboard dotted with buttons, colored lights, automatic chart recorders, and controls for setting 11 different pump speeds.

A similar change is now taking place at the Fairhill Station where three new electric pumps are in service, three more are planned, and the old gas pumps are being removed.

The tiny high pressure system is also becoming mighty.

**The Editor.**

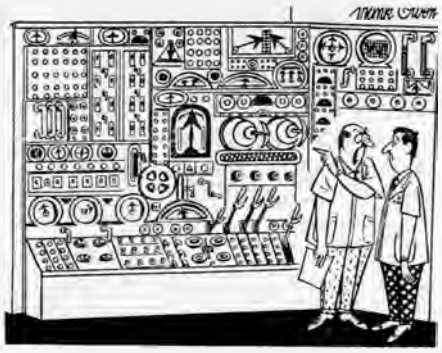
## FLU SHOTS ANYONE?

*A bunch of germs were whooping it up*
*In the bronchial saloon.*
*Two bugs on the end of the larynx*
*Were jazzing a ragtime tune.*
*While back of the teeth in a solo game*
*Sat dangerous Dan Kerchoo*
*And watching the pulse was his light of love,*
*The Lady that's known as "Flu."*

**Thanks to the "Water Meter"**

**Denver Water Department**

*She was a flop as a shoe clerk. When a customer asked for alligator shoes, she said, "What size is your alligator?"*



**"I'm going to explain all this to you only once, so listen carefully...!"**

# STELLABOTTE TOPS BOWLING LEAGUERS

Some eye opening scores are emerging from the current season of the men's bowling league.

With the tallies for the first half of the season in, Joseph Stellabotte, of the Design Branch, looms as the top man for the three game high series. His score was 579. Al Gionta, of the Meter Shop, was a close second with 565.

Gionta also knocked down the single game high (225) and the high average (162). Al Strouse, of Design, had the second single game high (219), while Stellabotte added the second high average (159) to his laurels.

With four teams in the rolling during the first half, Meter Truck finished on top with 32 victories and 20 losses. The other three teams, fielded by Design units, finished as follows:

| *Teams* | *Wins* | *Losses* |
|---|---|---|
| Distribution | 30 | 22 |
| Structural | 22 | 30 |
| Main Sewers | 20 | 32 |

Second half games, running until June, are now under way.

Team players are:

*Meter Truck:* Al Gionta, John Liberatore, Joseph Penczak, and Russell Thomas.

*Distribution Designers:* Tony DiLuzio, Mark Lalli, Fred Miami, and Joseph Stellabotte.

*Structural Designers:* Colston Black, Ray Cox, Harry Duffort, and Vincent Henry.

*Main Sewer Designers:* Mario Celoni, Al Strouse, Gene Zanier, and Alfred Kowalczyk.

## COMMENT

From Paul Weir, general manager of the Department of Water Works, Atlanta, Georgia:

"Congratulations on . . . the anniversary of your excellent Water Department publication.

"We cherish each copy and send it throughout our entire department for ideas and study. I just wanted to let you know how much the Philadelphia *Water Department News* means to us here in Atlanta."

## AMONG EMPLOYEES PROMOTED ARE . . .

**VINCENT PUCCIO**
**Water Meter Foreman**

**ROBERT LADSON, JR.**
**Repairman Trainee**

**RICHARD V. CLOEREN**
**Engineering Aide III**

## *Personal Notes*

*Projects Control*

The Cross of St. Agnes was presented by Heritage House to Mrs. Thomas Baldwin, Sr., the mother of Projects Control's Barbara Branch on December 31 at the Academy of Music. The award was made in recognition of Mrs. Baldwin's helpful work with young people as well as for other civic activities.

*Customer Service*

We are proud to note that Aurelius King, Jr., son of Mrs. Marian King, complaint clerk, was honored February 11 at a dinner given for him and his fellow Boy Scouts, who worked so helpfully with the Philadelphia Association for Retarded Children at Camp Hart, Pa., last summer.

*Quality Control*

We are happy that Walter Ringer, chief of Quality Control and Research, is now out of the hospital where he underwent an operation.

*Water Main Records*

Section Chief W. Frank Scott is now the proud grandfather of a baby girl, Marianne, born to his daughter February 16. She weighed 7½ lbs.

*Water Treatment*

Our sincerest sympathy goes to Elwood Bean, chief of water treatment, who lost his son, James, age 19, in January after a heart operation. James was attending the Drexel Institute of Technology.

# NAME 13 NEW WORKERS

Thirteen new employees have entered the department in the past few weeks. They are:

*General Administration:* Carolyn D. Wallace, clerk-typist II; Edward T. Engel, clerk I; Frank V. Masciocchi, accountant I; Zurn M. Winston, key punch operator I.

*Belmont Plant:* Raymond L. Daiutolo, chemist I, and Howard G. Skinner, laboratory technician.

*Other Units:* George Bryant, field inspector I, Customer Service; Wallace Amos, graduate engineer, Water Operations main office; George E. Story, chemist I, Northeast Sewage Works; Donald C. McCoy, laborer, Southeast Sewage Works; James J. Esmond, brick mason, Sewer Maintenance; Robert Webster, mechanical stores clerk, Logan Garage; and John J. Cuddy, Jr., engineering aide II, Construction Branch.

# NAME WILLIAM SNYDER AUTOMOTIVE CHIEF AS ELEVEN EMPLOYEES GAIN PROMOTIONS

William R. Snyder, 11033 Bustleton Avenue, has been named automotive maintenance supervisor in charge of the department's big Logan Garage. He is one of 11 Water Department employees recently promoted from civil service eligible lists.

Mr. Snyder, who became acting supervisor last October when Frank Keough retired, has worked for the department since March, 1953. He was successively a mechanic and foreman at the garage.

Trained at automotive and electrical schools, Mr. Snyder worked for Hendri Motors for several years, and then switched to electrical repairs on Army tanks for the C.A.M. Industries. Briefly he performed signal installation for the Reading Company. He served in the U. S. Army's 35th Infantry during World War II.

Two other employees at the Logan Garage have moved up. John F. Tancredi has stepped into Mr. Snyder's old spot as a foreman, while Oscar Barbour, a trades helper, has taken over Mr. Tancredi's duties as an automotive mechanic. Employed at the shop for a number of years, Mr. Tancredi once installed guns for the Philadelphia Navy Yard and made automotive repairs for the South Philadelphia Motor Car Company.

**Puccio New Foreman**

Vincent Puccio, a water meter repairman at the Meter Shop for 14 years, has been appointed a foreman of water meter installation and service. For two years during the 1940's he worked as a mechanic on paper box machines for the Globe Manufacturing Company.

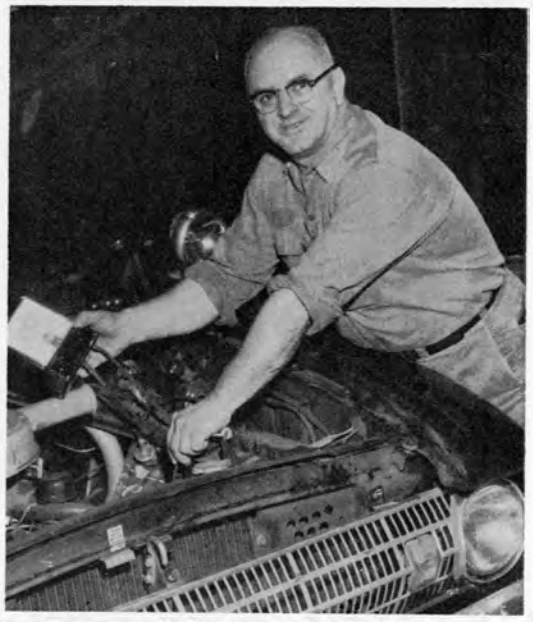
A new dispatcher at the Load Control Center is Charles J. Zappolo. Mr. Zappolo was a pumping station operator for several years, and was promoted to pumping station engineer (electric) in 1957.

Other promotions include: Robert Ladson, Jr., from laborer to repairman trainee, Distribution Section; Robert V. Cloeren, from engineering aide II to III, and John H. Berninger, from engineering aide I to II, Construction Branch; Alverta English, from key punch operator I to II, Administrative Services; Harry A. Duffort, from civil engineer I to II, Design Branch; and Edward F. Hertkorn, from Hydraulic engineer I to civil engineer II, Water and Sewer Systems Planning Unit.

**WILLIAM R. SNYDER, new automotive maintenance supervisor, is in charge of 15,000 upkeep jobs yearly on the department's trucks and passenger cars. About 3,000 jobs are preventive . . . done on a monthly schedule.**

**CHARLES J. ZAPPOLO**
**Load Control Dispatcher**

**EDWARD F. HERTKORN**
**Civil Engineer II**



**BIG SMILES show that Oscar Barbour (left), and John F. Tancredi have already heard the news of their promotions—to automotive mechanic and foreman, respectively, at the Logan Garage.**

# BASKETBALL FLASHES

The Water Department's first intersectional basketball tourney is now rolling across the courts.

Using a combination of zone defense and red hot shooting, the Design Branch toppled the basketballers of Administration in a game that was closer than the 50-28 score indicated.

In the opening moment, Design jumped off to a lead that was never headed, although at one point, when the score read 20-10, Administration threw a scare into the winners by closing the gap to 22-17. After that the roof seemed to cave in. Administration made 11 more points, while Design was dunking 28.

### Survey Nips Design

Survey using a fast break and some great outside shooting outpointed a good Design team 27-26. The game was nip and tuck until the final whistle. Design, at one stage behind 21-16, forged ahead with three straight baskets.

With 30 seconds remaining and the ball being brought down court by Survey, Design broke from its floating zone defense into a man to man. This was Design's undoing. The final basket was an outside shot that just *did* get into the basket.

Survey holds a 1-0 record, with Design 1-1 and Administration at 0-1. Southwest Works has not started its season.

**John Mirkil**

**WILLIAM BAYARD, of Water Department, takes flying slap at ball during game with Bell Telephone Company which Bell won 56 to 46.**

**THEY COME BIG in the cleaner Schuylkill River, as this 31½ inch musky seems to be saying. James Sullivan, maintenance mechanic, is prompting the big guy after nabbing him in the Queen Lane Raw Water Pumping Station intake. Picture was snapped by Evening Bulletin and is reprinted for those who missed it earlier.**

# TIPS ON GARDENING

**By Elwood Unruh**

**Gardener, Torresdale Plant**

If you never have sown a seed or planted a flower, visit the Flower Show anyway. It's worth the time and cost of admission. Of course, if you are a gardener, no matter how small your endeavors may seem, you'll leave the show with a lot of new ideas buzzing around your brain.

The new seed catalogs have been sent out and those who have received them are considering what to plant this season. If you haven't received a catalog, it isn't too late to send for yours. Look in the garden pages of the Sunday papers for names and addresses.

Now the time is approaching to think about the fertilizing of the various plants including the lawn. Rhododendrons, azaleas, hollies, laurels and the coniferous shrubs and trees (yews, spruce, junipers, etc.) can be fed an acid type plant food. If you use lime on your lawn, be sure none of it reaches any of the above and other plants in this category. As soon as possible, this job of plant feeding should be done.

### How To Feed Lawns

Lawns should have a 10-6-4 feeding. Usually 20 lbs. per 1,000 sq. feet in the Spring and again in the Fall. In buying and using the various fertilizers, it's much better for the uninformed to make the purchase at a bona fide garden supply center and receive the advice of those people who know their business.

In making plans, after a long Winter, for garden activities of the coming season, it is not unusual for many enthusiastic souls to overreach themselves. By mid-summer this zealousness has diminished but the work remains. What I'm trying to say is: enjoy your garden but don't become its slave.

I recall some years back, on a very hot August afternoon, grubbing weeds out of a nursery raw, when some visitors came by and a very nice lady remarked to me, "One must feel very close to God, while working in the soil."

I have since felt badly about the flippant answer I made to her, "Lady" I said, "do you know that Luther Burbank, the great horticulturalist, was an atheist?"

I have since learned to appreciate the thought expressed in this bit of verse.

*"The kiss of the sun for pardon,*
*The song of the bird for mirth.*
*One is nearer God's heart in the garden,*
*Than anywhere else on earth."*
*Anonymous*

Amen and pleasureful gardening.

**ROLLING BALLS unerringly down the alleys are Barbara Johnson, top left, and Edith Frey, while team mates above study results. Onlookers are (l. to r.), first row, Lois Jenkins, Mary Bailey and Bonita Dixon; second row, Irma Foster, Elaine Stevens and Terry DiPiano. Bowling is just one of many diversions offered women in the Employees' Recreation Association. Besides discounts for plays, movies, etc., women may set up teams for any of the sports. The association provides much equipment.**

# BOWLERS MULTIPLY AS WOMEN ORGANIZE

Women of the department are fielding six bowling teams, and there will be more to come as part of the new women's bowling league set up early in February.

With a men's league already functioning, 30 women employees have moved in a big way to show that males have no corner on bowling prowess. The new women's teams, representing scattered departmental units, bowl every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at 1005 Market Street.

Early scores foreshadow strikes to come: Mary Perry, of Distribution, got 157 for the high singles; Elaine Stephens, of Administration, racked up 373 for the high series, and she tied Teresa DiPiano at 118 for the high average.

Women employees desirous of bowling may contact Miss Stephens or Miss DiPiano, ext. 3808. Here is the line-up of teams:

*Annex:* Dorothy Kutys, Marie Grant, Dorothy Watson, Florence Graham, and Shirley Easley.

*Distribution:* Mary Perry, Ann Freed, Marilyn Josie, Aggienora Harrison, and Margaret Jenkins.

*29th and Cambria:* Edith Frye, Carol Shannon, Zurn Winston, Ursula Wilson, and Carole Threadgill.

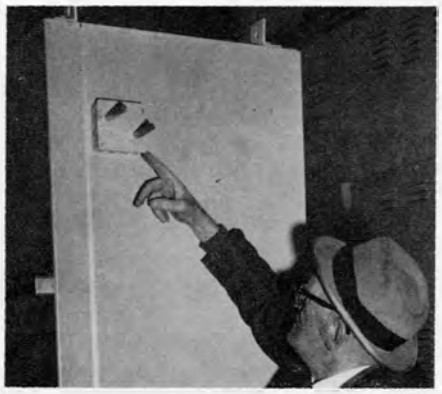
*Design:* Hester Walker, Barbara Johnson, Rachel Bleiberg, Peggy Haley, and Hilda Schmukler.

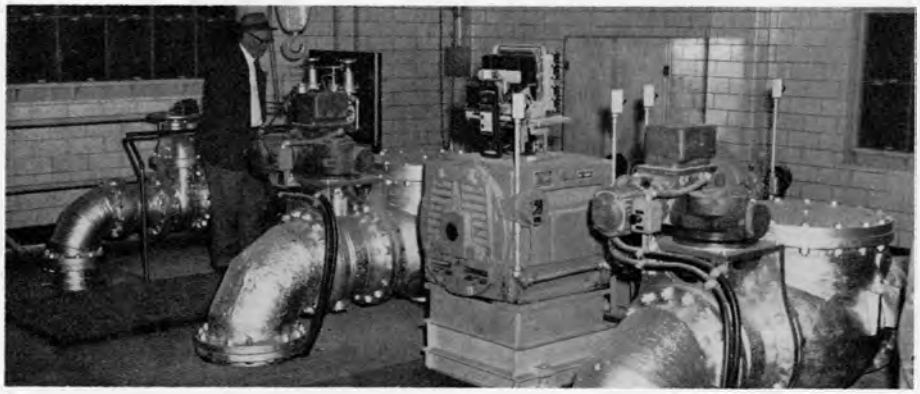
*Field:* Rosemary Giordano, Irma Foster, Ethelyn Pitts, Bonita Dixon, and Mattie Hooker.

*Administration:* Mary Bailey, Thelma Cavener, Teresa DiPiano, Elaine Stephens, and Goldie Jenkins.

The new league is sponsored by the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association.

**NEW UNMANNED WEST OAK LANE PUMPING STATION gets going over by Engineer C. George Walton, of Construction Branch. The $352,000 station, which will be ready for operation this spring, will pump purified Delaware River water into the Northwest. Its pumps and valves, below, will be remotely operated from the new Load Control Center via microwave. At right Mr. Walton points to "plugs" which sense temperature in the station for the Load Control Center.**





## WATER DISPLAYS SUPPORTS NATIONAL ENGINEERS' WEEK

Gracing the 30th Street Station of the Pennsylvania Railroad during National Engineers' Week, February 18-24, was one of the Water Department's large lighted displays. The exhibit, replete with color transparencies and explanatory captions on the improvements in the water system, was placed there as part of the Engineer's Week theme, "Economic growth through engineering."

# CRANES RESHAPE BELMONT PROFILE

Across the street is a large institution. Its premium look-out spots are on the second, third and fourth floors by the windows.

The topic of discussion among the 500 residents is the changing profile of that plant across Belmont Avenue.

"What's happening? Gosh! Will you look at that crane go! Holy Gees, what a fallout shelter that cave would make."

Yes, friends and neighbors, the work on Belmont's new plant is rapidly picking up speed. We who have known Belmont for more than a decade are experiencing a nostalgic feeling as the familiar facades of 57 years are being removed, exposing almost shamelessly the innards of a system that has served faithfully.

As the work progresses and the autopsy on the inanimate framework of Belmont exposes that which hasn't been visible, the true beauty and wizardry of architectural genius of yesteryear is apparent.

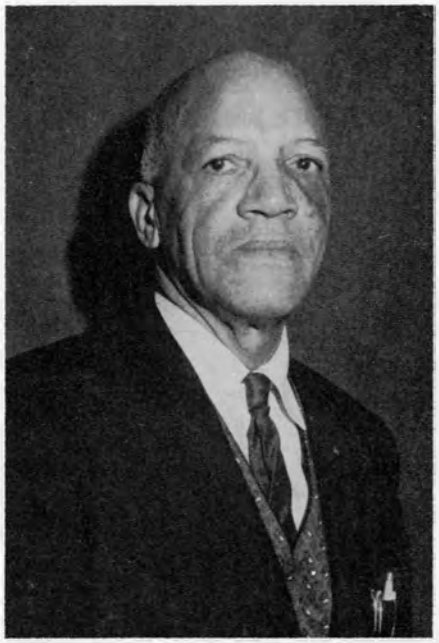
As the old makes way for the new at Belmont, the changing profile might look like anything but a water treatment plant. The new six story chemical building will never be identified as such. In fact one might easily mistake it for a modern office building. Perhaps that which will be most misleading will be the handsome, rectangular sedimentation basins, which will present as convincing an invitation to go swimming as any tourist attraction. But one thing is sure: the beautiful new plant will carry the department far toward its goal . . . a quality water that is above reproach. Perhaps this will gladden the hearts of all our neighbors.

### New Water Quality Center

One phase of the remodeling underlines this goal. This innovation, located on the court, is an attractive one floor building that will soon be the headquarters of the Quality Control and Research Section. Its staff composed of engineers and chemists, will use a maze of modern electronic laboratory instruments, monitoring equipment, and the latest research techniques. In the newly refurbished edifice, "quality" will be the password.

The compact interior will consist of three office spaces, which will be the hub of widespread activities. Feeding from them will be a special project research lab; a general lab; a specially appointed instrument room; a bacteriological room; a fume hazard room; a unique taste and odor room, and miscellaneous areas.

**Richard Pinder,**
**Quality Control**



MARCELLUS W. LLOYD

# LLOYD RETIRES AFTER 24 YEARS

Marcellus W. Lloyd, mechanic helper at the Lardner's Point Water Pumping Station, has written "finis" to 24 years of service with the City.

Mr. Lloyd, who will be 69 in April, worked as a laborer and steam fireman for the old Water Bureau, and at one time ran a paper cutting machine for a printing company. Long active in church affairs, Mr. Miller is secretary of the board of deacons and clerk of the church at Miller Memorial Baptist, 1518 North 22nd Street. He plans to continue working part time. Married with five children, he lives at 1415 North 21st Street.

### SOUND BODIES IN SOUND JOBS?

Could Water personnel be happy as well as healthy?

The department's sick leave use in 1961 averaged only eight days per employee . . . the lowest rate for any non-uniformed City department with more than 40 employees. At the same time personnel turnover was only 9.7%, a decrease of 2.8% from the year before.

# *Current Plays*

**Reviewed by Paul Siegel**
**Construction Branch**

"All American," which just closed in Philadelphia but can still be caught in New York, has all the ingredients that a hit musical comedy requires. The show has an abundance of excellent talent, music, humor, and color. It has, however, no definite shape or form or a specific point of view.

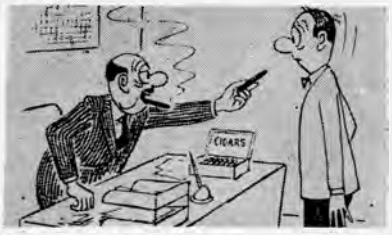
Ray Bolger is excellent as Professor Fodorski, an immigrant who comes to America to teach engineering only to find the average college student more interested in social activities and sports than education. He proceeds to teach and have other subjects taught in terms applicable to football. Unfortunately, most of the characters, ingratiating as they may be, are kicked around like footballs and pop in and out without sufficient identification or purpose.

The role of the Professor, as presently written, is inclined more toward caricature than character. Rounding out an excellent cast of costars are Eileen Herlie, as the sympathetic dean, Ron Husmann and Anita Gillete, epitomizing typical college students, and Fritz Weaver, in a superfluous role dragged into the second act without significance.

The major asset of the production is the music by Charles Strouse and Lee Adams. The opening numbers "Melt Us" and "What A Country" serve to introduce the incoming immigrants to our country, but somehow, after finding their way into the plot, all but the protagonist get lost in the shuffle.

*Poise: The ability to continue talking while the other fellow picks up the check.*

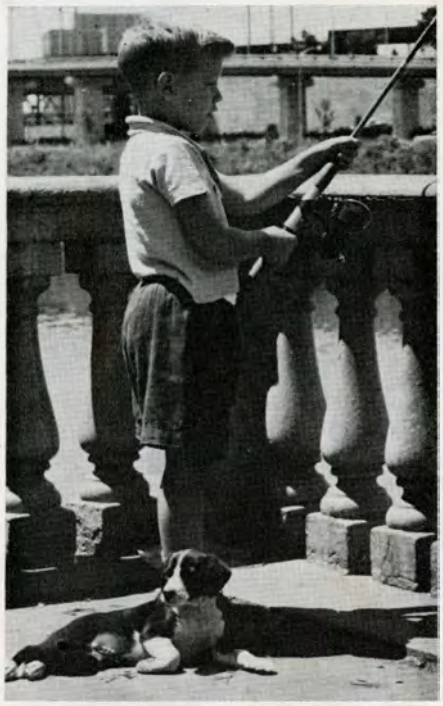
*The test of being a good host is how well the departing guest likes himself.*




*"Congratulations, Ramsey. We've adopted that suggestion you submitted, and it's worked out so well we find that we can eliminate your job entirely."*

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. MAY-AUGUST, 1962



**PEACEFUL: Johnny Gianpitro and his faithful puppy, both of 749 North 23rd Street, try their fishing luck along the Schuylkill.**

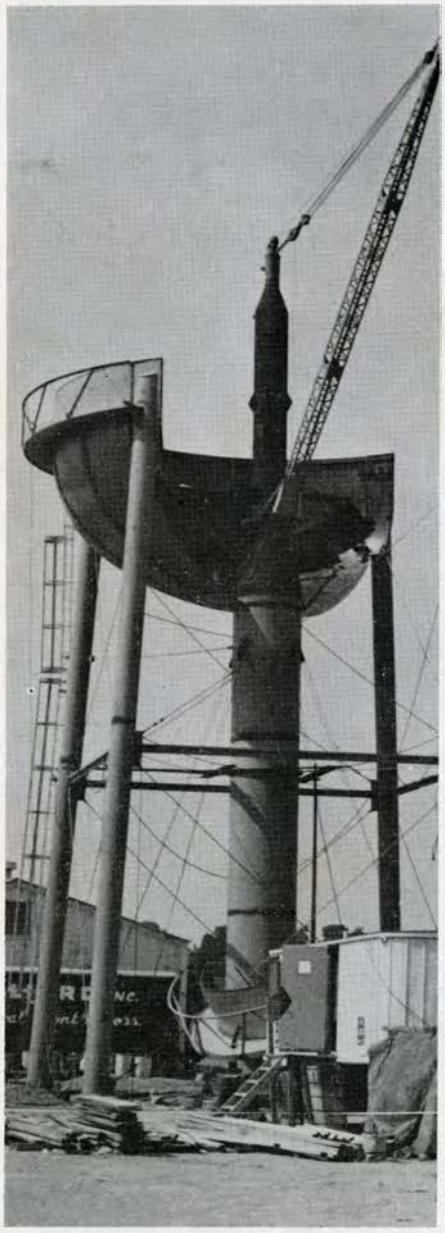
## *HERO THRILL SHOW OFFERS BIG STUNTS AND BIG STARS*

Big names and bigger thrills will mark Philadelphia's famous Hero Scholarship Fund Thrill Show, Friday, September 7, at 7:30 p.m., in the Philadelphia Stadium.

The show, which provides scholarship funds for the children of police, firemen and park guards killed or totally disabled in the line of duty, will feature comedian Joey Bishop, bandleader Duke Ellington, singer Brenda Lee, and actor Dick Powell.

The many acts will include the Police Department's skilled motor cycle riders, firefighters on the high ladder, park guards with their trained horses and dogs, mummers' bands, aerialists and fireworks.

# DEPARTMENT PUTS $2.5 MILLION MONTHLY INTO HUGE SUMMER TIME BUILDING BOOM



**WARLIKE: Giant missile at Belmont Water Plant is harmless core of new wash water tank.**

One of the busiest building booms in Philadelphia this summer is to be found in the Water Department.

With $2.5 million of work being done monthly on 120 to 140 projects at a time, the department is taking giant strides toward successful completion of its 20-year program (1946-66) for the water and sewerage systems.

Over at Belmont, across the Schuylkill River, huge craters have been dug out of the earth for the foundations and substructures of the new $10.4 million water treatment plant. An army of men swarms over the dust laden grounds under a boiling sun, arranging reinforcing metal, pouring concrete, laying piping, studying plans. A half-dozen contractor's trailers are scattered over the scene, while towering over all is a bright, orange wash water tank, erected months ahead of schedule.

While work at Belmont is moving frantically ahead on the substructures for the southern sedimentation basins and the south wing of the new filter building, another huge project is just starting at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works.

### Northeast Works Expansion

Up at Northeast, on the Delaware, five new tanks are about to be built. The new tanks, when ready in 1964, will increase the plant's capacity to 175 million gallons of sewage daily . . . a big jump from the present 125 mgd.

The new tanks will include one for aeration, with a practical retention capacity of 3.45 million gallons, and four for final settling, with capacity of 1.4 million gallons each. In addi- pumping units will be installed, new tion to the tanks, two small sludge

(Continued on Page 6)

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

Published Bi-Monthly By
THE WATER DEPARTMENT

*Commissioner, Samuel S. Baxter*

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| (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
| (Specifications) | Joseph Mair |
| (Structural) | Morris Siegel |
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| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo, Joseph Cooper |
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| Southeast Works | Ernest Craig |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Operations Office | Sylvia Weiss |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Richard Pinder |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


**FOR QUIET BEAUTY the Schuylkill River, which supplies half of the city's water, knows few rivals. Scene, looking under Columbia Avenue bridge near Belmont Raw Water Pumping Station.**

## *UNITED FUND SEEKS FAIR TORCH BEARER*

Attention, girls. There's a job open for you.

The United Fund is looking for an attractive, personality radiant miss to carry a torch.

The Water Department, as a 1962 Torchlighter, is entitled to nominate a candidate to compete for this year's "Miss Torch" title. Whether you win or lose (in the latter case you may become a member of Miss Torch's court), it's a pleasant prospect, beset with television, radio and newspaper publicity, luncheons, personal appearances, etc.

So, how about it girls. Twist your supervisor's arm. Make him send in your nomination to the editor of the *News*, along with your picture. No later than August 29.

Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter will appoint a committee of judges to select a nominee for the Water Department.

*The best way to get a job done is to give it to a busy man. He'll have his secretary do it.*

## THREE ENGINEERS WALK 35 LONG SUBWAY MILES

A team of Water Department men took a little stroll recently through Philadelphia's underground subway system.

The team walked the Broad Street line from Fern Rock to Snyder, a mere 12 miles. Then the walkers walked back.

Later these peripatetic enthusiasts traversed the Market Street line on foot from 2nd Street to 44th Street, and then crawled, we think, all the way back. They had to do this several times to make sure they would miss none of the branching tunnels.

Finally, to make their record complete, they walked the Locust Street line.

Apart from the excellent exercise and the good sport of dodging subway trains, the team made a careful study of wet spots that might indicate water main or other leaks.

The team members, Danny Caruso, an assistant distribution supervisor, and two water quality engineers, Richard Pinder and Ed Shervin, were blinking eyelids like mad as they sat hoping for a chiropodist to rub their aching feet.

## NEW PERSONNEL OFFICER BLOWS A RHYTHMICAL NOTE "TO RELAX"

Floyd Platton, who has just been appointed acting personnel officer of the Water Department, can interpret a wild musical note as easily as a dull personnel regulation.

A musician of no mean ability, Mr. Platton plays the clarinet and saxophone for relaxation. During and after college, he played with a small jazz band in New York night clubs.

Two years in the U. S. Army put an end to Mr. Platton's musical ventures, and, on leaving the army, he turned to the more sober field of personnel. For this too he was well prepared, having graduated from the City College of New York in 1953 with a B.A. and a major in psychology.

After doing testing and recruiting for the Maryland State Commissioner of Personnel, Mr. Platton came to Philadelphia in 1957. Until 1960 he worked in the City Personnel Department's examinations division and then became assistant chief of placement services. He has current civil service status as a personnel technician II.

**FLOYD PLATTON**

Mr. Platton lives at 6904 Heyward Street. He is married and has three children.

# WATER EMPLOYEES TOP OTHER CITY "STUDENTS"

More course certificates have been earned by Water Department employees in the City Government Training Institute than by the employees of any other City department.

This fact has emerged from a study covering the first three years of the highly successful school. During this time, 90 Water Department employees received 141 certificates of course completion.

The runner-up was the Department of Public Health, with 105 certificates, while the Department of Streets came in third with 92.

Nearly $10,000 in fees, at $10 per course, was taken in by the school from employees representing 40 departments. Though the Water Department employs only 5.0% of all City workers, it had 12.2% of the school registration.

According to City Personnel Development Advisor William M. Gillin, who prepared the three-year report, the training institute this year may be even bigger and better. Currently a survey is being made among department heads and employees to determine what courses will best serve their needs in the coming year. Several new courses loom on the October horizon, when school opens.

## REPORTING OUTSIDE JOBS

Mayor James H. J. Tate has issued the following executive order:

1. No city officer or employee shall engage in private employment or render service for private interests that is incompatible with the proper discharge of his official duties.

(A city officer or employee who engages in private employment or renders service for private interests in reliance upon a written determination by the head of his department, agency, office, board or commission that such employment or service is not incompatible with the proper discharge of his official duties is not acting in violation of this order.)

2. A department head may adopt and enforce within his department more detailed regulations governing outside employment by department personnel. Such regulations must be consistent with the first paragraph of this order.

# DEPUTY COMMISSIONER BAROFSKY RETIRES CLOSING FORTY YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**MAX BAROFSKY**
**Retiring Deputy**

**RAIN OR SHINE the younger set throngs to the big Torresdale Water Plant to look over push-button controls, settling basins and pumps. During the summer they come by the scores every week-end and during the school year by classes on school days.**

Max Barofsky, one of the Water Department's best liked officials, has retired as deputy commissioner, after 40 years of municipal service.

Mr. Barofsky, 63, has been in charge of sewerage operations for the Water Department since 1952, and came into the City service in 1922.

A professional engineer, he served in a succession of positions in the old Department of Public Works, working in both the bureau of engineering, surveys and zoning and the bureau of highways and street cleaning. By 1948 he was principal assistant engineer in charge of construction for the latter bureau, and in 1951 returned to engineering and surveys as assistant chief engineer.

From 1952 to 1956, Mr. Barofsky was the Water Department's chief engineer as well as head of its sewerage facilities. He played an active role in the creation and operation of the city's new sewage treatment plants and other sewage disposal facilities, which have helped to clean up the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers.

"We are very sorry to lose Mr. Barofsky," said Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter. "Not only will we miss his genuine professional talents, but also his integrity of mind and character. Without fanfare, and always in a business like way, Mr. Barofsky has given his best to the City over the years. He leaves an enviable record of achievement behind him."

Mr. Barofsky's retirement became effective at the end of June. He is married, and has two sons and one granddaughter. He lives at 7016 Old York Road. Recently 100 Water Department employees and former colleagues attended a luncheon in his honor.

*"He's an inspector from the Water Department."*

# SHELTON BECOMES CIVIL ENGINEER IV AS 52 EMPLOYEES EARN PROMOTIONS

William H. Shelton heads a list of 52 employees who have been advanced to higher civil service positions in the past few months. Mr. Shelton, who served as resident engineer at Torresdale in the hectic days when that $25 million plant was being built, has been promoted from mechanical engineer III to civil engineer IV.

Mr. Shelton takes over the Construction Branch unit formerly headed by Edward T. Tohlin, who has retired.

A graduate of the University of California (B.S. in mechanical engineering, 1940), Mr. Shelton served as post engineer at several large U. S. Air Force bases, including Presque Isle, Maine, Newcastle, Del., and Kimpo in Korea. He was sales engineer for the Hajoca Corporation from 1953 to 1954. In the latter year he entered the Water Department as a mechanical engineer II. Currently holding a commission as major, he continues to be active in the U. S. Air Force Reserve. He lives at 6200 North 7th Street.

**WILLIAM H. SHELTON**
**Civil Engineer IV**

### Name Hansen Foreman

Among field installation employees promoted is Thomas J. Hansen, of 604 East Thayer Street. Mr. Hansen has been named an electrician foreman II at the Torresdale Plant, where electricians are key men in the operation of the bewildering complex of electronic facilities. Mr. Hansen joined the department in 1959 as an electrician at the Queen Lane Plant.

**THOMAS J. HANSEN**
**Electrician Foreman II**

Other employees promoted include:

*Construction:* Hugh Ireland, from civil engineer I to II; Erwin L. Huber, from engineering aide II to civil engineer I; Joseph R. Conroy, from public works inspector I to II; Thomas Lederer, from engineering aide III to public works inspector II; John V. Ferrero, John A. Tiano, and Albert DeRentz, from engineering aide II to public works inspector I; Clyde R. White, from engineering aide II to III; William A. Chestnut and James Washington, from engineering aide I to II.

*Distribution:* Leroy Dolison, from distribution repairman to foreman; Edward S. Broccolo and John H. Maffett, from equipment operator I to distribution foreman; Basil Harrison, Charles Sparks, Jesse Smith, Wilbert Tillman, Dennis Haynesworth, James P. Hendrie, English Peay, Anthony Raffa, King Roseborough, Frank Craddock, Norman White, Leon A. Wilson, James E. Harley, Robert Ladson, Jr., Steve L. Ellis, Lester R. Watkins and Alfred E. Upshur, from distribution repairman to emergency repairman; Raymond E. Brown, from field inspector I to emergency repairman.

Robert Underwood, from trades helper to equipment operator I;

(Continued on Page 5)

# ROD AND REELERS REEL IN TOO MANY BIG ONES ON TRIP

The "Rod and Reelers" of the Water Department found fisherman's paradise on their first trip out this summer.

The trip was made on Captain Bogan's Paramount II, and started as a 30-mile cruise from Brielle, N. J., to the Jersey Highlands, only a few nautical miles from New York.

Then it happened.

While the old timers were checking records and comparing notes on past years when fish of such size and proportions were caught, John Hevener & son, of Customer Service, started reeling them in. Their catch of more than 100 was too much for one container.

Carl Fink (Design) and Harry Myers (Load Control Center) fished side by side and were so busy pulling 'em in, one would have thought that they were strangers. However they were overheard to lament the job of cleaning so many fish.

As trip chairman, I have a message for the 99.99% of the Employees' Recreation Association membership who didn't make the trip. We missed you, and you missed loads of fish and fun.

Other trips, however, are scheduled. Maybe you can make it next time. Watch your bulletin boards for the complete announcement.

**Richard Pinder**

**PASCHAL CELENZA**
**Civil Engineer II**

**WATER AND SEWAGE OPERATORS ponder problems (above) posed by Penn State Prof. Thomas Brannan in Torresdale Water Plant lecture room. Course, which has run through most of July and August, is given by Penn State University for plant operators from Southeastern Pennsylvania communities.**

**LEFT: QUESTIONS of Le Tuong Khanh and Vo Dinh Hanh, Viet Namese officials, are answered by Prof. Brannan. The Viet Namese, who help to direct the Saigon Metropolitan Water Supply Agency, completed a six-weeks "Interneship" at Torresdale.**

# TORRESDALE IS HOST TO OPERATOR COURSE

The City's new Torresdale Water Plant may never vie with the great universities, but it is becoming a mecca for water works men who want to learn more.

Two engineering officials from Saigon, Viet Nam, have been groomed at Torresdale this summer for operation of a huge water supply project which they will help to construct in Saigon.

In addition, 48 water and sewage plant operators from Southeastern Pennsylvania communities have been attending Tuesday afternoon courses given by Pennsylvania State University in the plant's lecture room.

The Viet Namese are winding up six months of study in this country under guidance of the U. S. Public Health Service, while the Pennsylvania operators were given the opportunity to take Penn State's annual summer course closer to home rather than on the university campus.

The Penn State course covers subjects that operators should know, such as pumps, hydraulics, safety, maintenance, public health protection, chemistry, mathematics, etc. It is taught by Prof. Thomas Brannan, of the College of Engineering and Architecture. Eleven Philadelphia Water Department men are in the course.

### Viet Namese Study Plant

Vo Dinh Hanh, deputy director-chief engineer, and Le Tuong Khanh, mechanical engineer, of the Saigon Metropolitan Water Supply Agency, have been attending the operator's course as well as putting in five days a week since mid-July observing plant operations.

Mr. Hanh, a civil engineer, is a graduate of various French schools, the Lycee Louis Le Grand in Paris, and the Sorbonne (1960). As deputy director of the Saigon Water Supply Agency, he is responsible for all technical services.

Mr. Khanh attended the University of Saigon and graduated in 1960, with a master of science degree in mechanical engineering, from the University of Montreal, Canada. In Saigon he directs filtration experiments and general engineering projects. He is a student of automatic controls.

Mr. Khanh and Mr. Hanh are the most recent among many foreign officials to inspect Torresdale operations since 1959.

# PROMOTE 52 EMPLOYEES

(Continued from Page 4)

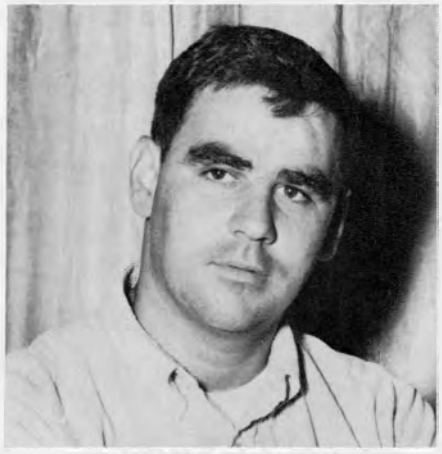
Nathan Simmons, from distribution repairman to equipment operator I; John R. Schoolfield, from mechanic helper to equipment operator I; Samuel Adams, from plant helper I to equipment operator I; Nathan N. Brown, from automotive driver to equipment operator I; Vincent Washington, Herman A. Stephens, Joseph Rozier, Willie Loury and James D. Pickett, from laborer to distribution repairman trainee.

*Torresdale Plant:* Arthur E. Bartlett, from chemist II to water treatment laboratory supervisor; Frank C. Tiano, from filter plant mechanic I to meter and gauge mechanic I.

*Water-Sewerage Planning:* Eleanor E. O'Donnell, from engineering aide III to civil engineer I; Paschal Celenza, from civil engineer I to II.

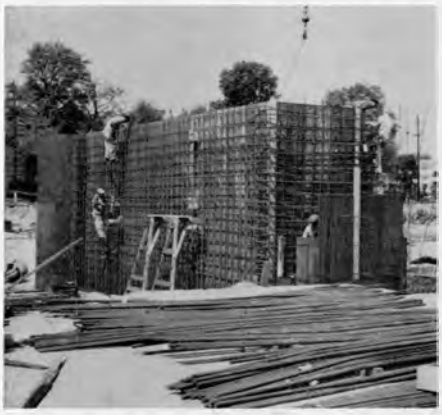
*Northeast Works:* Albert K. Forman, from water meter repairman I to maintenance mechanic II; John Kulick, from maintenance mechanic I to II.

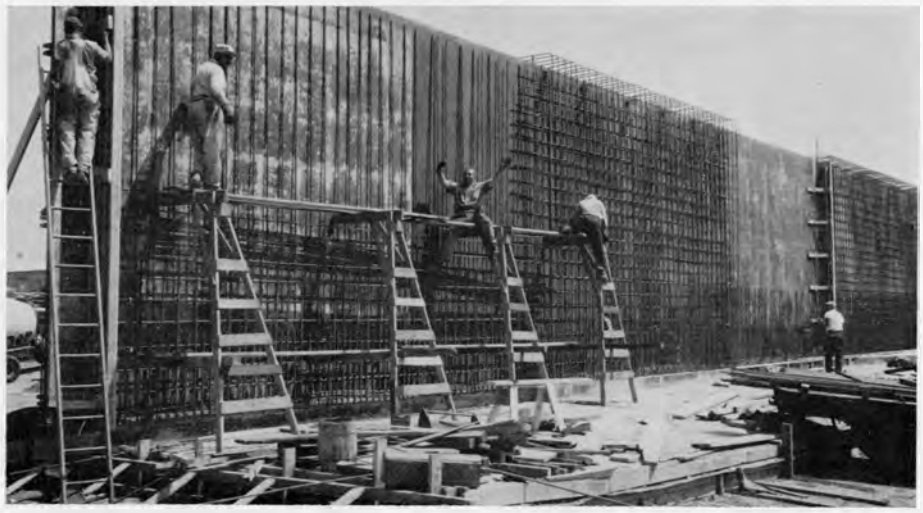
*Others:* Andrew R. Banta, from graduate engineer to mechanical engineer I, Design Branch; Walter S. Holloway, from laborer to semi-skilled laborer, Meter Shop; and Thomas A. Guerrant, from laborer to automotive driver, Logan Garage.



**THOMAS LEDERER**
**Public Works Inspector II**

# THE RING OF HAMMER AND SHOVEL AT BELMONT





FAST CONSTRUCTION PACE is maintained for new Belmont Water Plant as dry chamber (above left) and channel wall (above) take shape. Below, concrete fill is being poured for one of four sedimentation basins.

## SUMMER BUILDING BOOM

(Continued from Page 1)

sludge pumps will be placed in the blower building, and eventually more air blowers will be added.

While the cranes are getting ready to dig into the ground at Northeast, another crane is lifting off the sky high roof of the Lardner's Point Pumping Station farther up the Delaware. Construction of a lower roof, as well as other renovations, will provide a proper setting for the newly installed electric pumps.

Over at 7th and Lehigh, three more electric pumps are being mounted in the old Fairhill High Pressure Station, where the abandoned steam pumps will soon be removed and a Materials Testing Laboratory constructed.

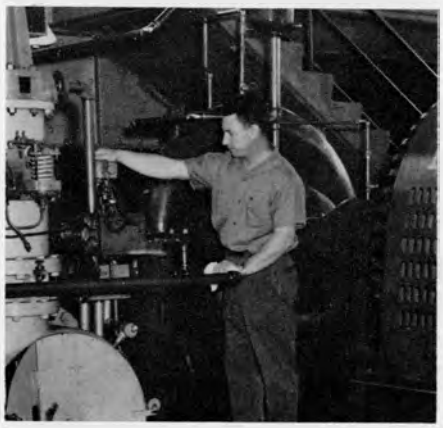
Still farther across North Philadelphia the hammer and drill resound at the Queen Lane High Service Pumping Station. The entire interior is being overhauled, while temporary pumps throb outside the building, sending water as far as Roxborough.

Up at Fox Chase a gleaming steel standpipe is nearing completion, while throughout the city new water mains and sewers are pushing in every direction. Blasts reverberate far underground as the giant Wakeling Street Relief Sewer creeps through Wissinoming, and across the Schuylkill cranes and men buzz around the old bricks of the Mill Creek Sewer, now undergoing reconstruction. Small rail cars carry away piles of rock and earth as new interceptor sewers move along both banks of the lower Schuylkill. New sections of a long reinforcing main move from Torresdale toward the Somerton tanks.

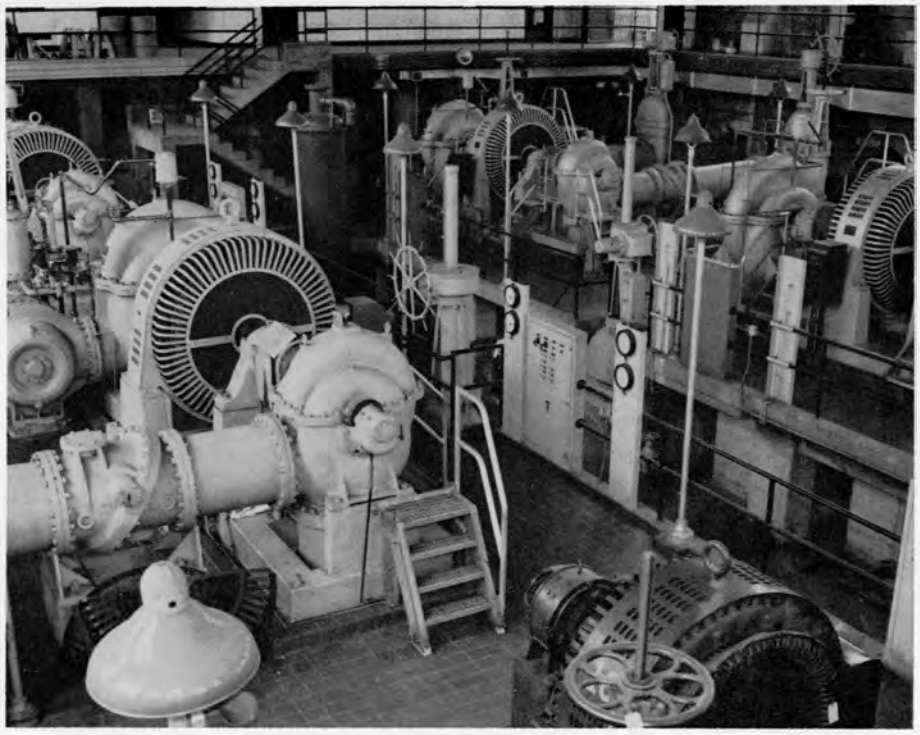
HIGH COMMAND STUDIES construction strategies for new Belmont Plant. L. to r., Engineers Joseph McKenna, Kenneth Zitomer, Samuel Wilson (chief of Construction Branch), Fred Plegge, E. L. Huber, John Calhoun, R. C. Harris, and Thomas Brady.

# .. AND A CITY WIDE BUSTLE OF NEW BUILDING

NEW FOX CHASE storage tank for filtered water (above) will help to stabilize water pressures in wide area of Northeast, while water main improvements just outside Queen Lane Booster Pumping Station (below) will better service for the Northwest.



SIGNS OF PROGRESS: Engineer Charles Mager jots down notes on advancement of 3.5 mile long interceptor sewer on west bank of Schuylkill River (above). while Engineer John Beaudet (photo at left) checks on pump just installed in the Lardner's Point Pumping Station. Below, new electric pumps put into service in last few years at Lardner's Point.



# DEPARTMENT NAMES 84 NEW EMPLOYEES

Eighty-four new employees have entered the Water Department since mid-January. They are scattered through nearly every unit of the department, and represent more than 30 different civil service classes.

The *News* extends a big welcome to the following:

*General Administration:* Dorothy Tillman and Claudette L. Suggs, key punch operators I; Reather E. Bowen, clerk typist I; Adelyn Matthews, account clerk; Abraham B. Weiner, management trainee; Mildred C. Redman and Elrae Johnston, clerks I.

*Customer Service:* Helen J. Curry, clerk I; Carolyn A. Stewart, Miriam Shaw and Edward Ethengain, Jr., clerk typists I; Charles R. Barker, clerk typist II.

*Distribution:* John T. McGrath, emergency dispatcher; Blonnie Eason and Joseph L. Hausley, emergency repairmen; Gerald Weiss, Raymond W. Zelinskie, Ralph V. Mongelluzzo, Melvin T. Beale, Raymond C. Quairoli, Nicholas J. Taglianetti, John C. Zimmer, Charles M. Russo, Leonard M. Anicola, Vincent J. DiDomenico, William J. Adams, Willis E. Hackett, Raymond L. DeLorenzo, Vincent F. Dominiano, Anthony J. Rivelli and Harwood Johnson, repairmen.

George Frison, Andrew Savage, Nathan Spellman, Benjamin Small, John A. Stevens and Robert Jones, laborers; Gerald P. Conahan, security officer I; Phyllis J. Rowden, clerk I; and Timothy Waterman, clerk typist II.

### Three from Construction

*Construction:* Hervey A. Leschinsky and Richard Thompson, engineering aides II; Stewart J. Nichols, engineering aide I; and Rosemary Burgess, clerk stenographer I.

*Northeast Works:* Robert P. Fluellen and John J. Carbin, sewage treatment operators I; William Berry, Thomas J. White and Thomas Hawkins, plant helpers I.

*Torresdale Plant:* Edward V. Weber, chemist I; Rachael Pope and Jane S. Sherard, clerk typists I; Nathan Scott, custodial worker I; and Ted Miller, electrician.

*Torresdale Filtered Water Station:* Beatrice Blum, clerk typist II, who transferred from the Department of Public Welfare; and Harold O. Rumsey, clerk typist I.

*Sewer Maintenance:* Romeo Del Viscio, brick mason; James H. Grimes, Douglas Brown, and Albert S. Scott, laborers; Moses Dowd and John K. Smith, sewer crawlers.

*Logan Garage:* John T. Parrish and Ross Patterson, automotive servicemen; Henry V. Williams, clerk typist I; and Eugene Taylor, stockhandler.

*Miscellaneous:* Thomas D. Blake, field inspector I, and George Rodney, water meter repairman, Meter Shop; Joyce Yavelberg, clerk stenographer I, Sewerage Operations (administration); Frederick R. Anspack, chemist I, and James White, painter I, Queen Lane Water Plant; Van Holland, field inspector I, Industrial Wastes; Nicholas Colanzi, civil engineer I, Engineering; James E. Moore, custodial worker I, Building Maintenance.

Frank D. Fairman, chemist I, and David M. Pestcoe, laboratory technician, Materials Testing Laboratory; Edward Cooper, laborer, and Samuel Paulk, Jr., trades helper, Plant Maintenance; Harold O. Rumsey, clerk typist I, Delaware Pumping; Faulkner M. Edmonds, civil engineer I, Water Operations (administration); Beverly T. Hudson, clerk typist I, Central Stores; and Jean F. Blackston, laboratory technician, Belmont Water Plant.

The new employees have been (or will be) welcomed to the department through orientation classes, a popular feature of the department's personnel program.

ROBERT RUNKLE

# ROBERT RUNKLE STEPS INTO "HALL OF FAME"

Robert Runkle, storeskeeper at the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant, has stepped into the Mummers' Hall of Fame.

Bob, who has been parading since he was 12 and who at 22 organized the Uptown String Band, was nominated the outstanding man of the year at the annual banquet of the Philadelphia New Year's Shooters and Mummers Association. Bob received a Hall of Fame trophy from the association along with a $100 bond from the band which he captains.

The Uptown String Band has captured second or third place in the Mummers' Parade every year for the last 15 years . . . except in 1957 when it took first place.

*Age: The will to live and do is the greatest asset which any man may carry into old age. Some philosophers have even said that old age is largely a matter of will.*

# MANAGER CLUB ASKS WATER MEN TO JOIN

Supervisory personnel desirous of broadening have the opportunity to look into the Philadelphia Industrial Management Club. Harry L. Schuehler, executive secretary, has invited Water Department employees of management level to join.

The club, composed of supervisors from scores of local industries, is one of 236 industrial management clubs in the United States. Meeting the first Wednesday of each month from October through June, the club is open to supervisors, superintendents, foremen, personnel officers, plant engineers, administrators, management analysts, and others with "decision making" power.

Mr. Schuehler points out that the club gives its members a chance to exchange ideas and brings them into contact with the best thought on management and human relations. It provides for plant visits, prominent speakers, forums and workshops, and it participates in state and national conferences with similar clubs.

Applications may be obtained from Mr. Schuehler at the Germantown Y.M.C.A., 5722 Greene Street, tel. VI 4-3281. Dues, $10 annually.

# A BIG WATER METER GOES IN

**IT'S A NORMAL DAY for Meter Shop crew as a three-inch water meter is replaced at an industrial plant. Photos: (1) Crew consisting of (l. to r.) James Holmes, Lewis Kuriger, and Joseph Kowalski uses large key to shut off water, (2) Holmes removes old meter in pit, (3) new meter is lowered into pit. Crews keep big meters operating, for the big ones produce more than half of all revenue from meters.**

## METER TRUCK TEAM WINS 77 GAMES TO CAPTURE BOWLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Leading during most of the season, the Meter Truck team has emerged as 1962 champions of the Water Department bowling league. Meter Truck players won 77 victories and suffered 39 losses in their contest with three opposing teams.

The other three teams, all from the Design Branch, finished as follows:

| *Teams* | *Wins* | *Losses* |
|---|---|---|
| Distribution | 60 | 56 |
| Main Sewers | 51 | 65 |
| Structural | 44 | 72 |

John Liberatore, of Meter Truck, captured the high series laurels with a 613, as well as the high single crown with a 245. The high average honors for the season, however, went to Joseph Stellabotte, of Design "distribution,' who made 162.

Most improved player of the season turned out to be Ray Cox, of Design "structural," who started bowling with an average of 126 and hiked it to 153.

Most surprising aspect of the season: Where did they get the energy to play 116 games?

*If there were more self-starters, the boss wouldn't have to be a crank.*

**"And one day big City Hall tepee will stand here. Will have many chiefs . . . few Indians."**

# SEVEN UNITS EARN SAFETY BANNERS BY AMASSING MILLION "SAFE" HOURS

"Green Cross for Safety" banners will be presented shortly to seven sections which individually have rolled up 50,000 or more consecutive man hours without a disabling injury.

This campaign, which was launched a year ago by the Water Department's master safety committee, has scored a large measure of success.

The banners, presented by the National Safety Council, will go to the Delaware Pumping Division, Schuylkill Pumping Division, Belmont Water Plant, Distribution Section, Meter Shop, Sewer Maintenance Section, and Construction Branch. Construction had 243,032 man hours free of disabling injuries over a period of nine months, the largest safe man hour total in the group.

Between July 1, 1961, and March 31, 1962, the seven winning sections collectively amassed 48 months free of disabling injuries, or 927,000 man hours. The entire department works about three million man hours a year.

### Distribution Wins

Noteworthy is the fact that the large Distribution Section, which consists of field forces exposed to accidents of street and weather, piled up two accident free months totaling 101,000 man hours. Two other less exposed sections, Delaware and Schuylkill Pumping, had nine perfect months.

The ground rules for the campaign are these: Each unit which works 50,000 man hours without a disabling injury receives a banner; the unit may keep the banner until a disabling injury occurs; then the banner must be returned and the unit must start over.

Some units because of their large personnel forces and heavy work load can win the banner in a few months; others require a year. In addition there is a special "handicap" for the Design Branch and the "administrative office" group, since their accident opportunities are fewer than those of the field units. The design and office units must roll up 150,000 injury free man hours.

*He who does wrong does wrong against himself. He who acts unjustly acts unjustly against himself, because he makes himself bad.*

*—Marcus Aurelius.*


*Our plans go astray because they have no direction and no aim. No wind serves the man who has no port of destination.*

*—Michel de Montaigne.*

# CLAIMS REQUIRE PERMISSION FROM CITY LAW DEPARTMENT

Written permission of the Law Department is now required before a City employee can make a claim, or start a suit, against a private party for personal injuries or property damage arising from an accident or other event in the course of his municipal employment.

The new ruling was adopted recently by the City Administrative Board.

Employees desiring to sue or press a claim should forward a memorandum to the claims division of the Law Department offering the following information: Name and home address, employee number and department, date and time of accident, name and address of person against whom the claim will be made, name of insurance company (if known), and the name and address of the employee's attorney.

Administrative personnel are requested, upon receipt of an accident or injury report, to remind the employee of these facts.

# HOW TO REPORT ACCIDENTS

Most of us don't like to think of personal injuries or accidents. But what if they occur on the job? What do we do? How do we seek treatment? To whom do we report?

The succinct instructions below, adopted by the Water Department's master safety committee, answer these and many other questions. You will find them helpful. You are required to follow them.

### Personal Injuries

When an employee sustains an injury on the job, it is mandatory that he:

a. Report the incident immediately to the supervisor.
b. Indicate how, when and where the injury occurred,
c. Report (if required) to the Philadelphia General Hospital Compensation Clinic for treatment, with a referral slip,
d. Honor all appointments with the P.G.H. Clinic,
e. Report to the Water Department Safety Officer all claims of recurrent injury.

All employees are advised of the following:

f. The P.G.H. Compensation Clinic is the only proper authority to authorize work duty status,
g. "Injury Time" will *not* be credited for injuries unless a report has been filed and "injury time" is authorized by the compensation clinic,
h. Emergency care can be authorized only *for the initial treatment* of serious injuries. All subsequent treatment must be received at the P.G.H. Compensation Clinic.

### Motor Vehicles

It is mandatory that an employee have and carry a valid Pennsylvania Operator's License in order to operate a Water Department vehicle. When involved in an accident with a city vehicle *the employee must:*

a. Immediately call the Accident Investigation Division (A.I.D.) Police Department (MU 6-3106) and the departmental safety officer (MU 6-3812).
b. Not make any statements except to A.I.D. investigators. You are required to give the other driver a copy of accident information card attached to Water Department procedure dated 9-1-61. A copy of this procedure should be in the glove compartment of every vehicle.
c. Complete an accident report, and turn it in immediately to the supervisor. On this report of motor vehicle accident the amount of damage to both vehicles must be indicated and also whether or not a personal injury occurred.
d. Within 24 hours after the accident, irrespective of vehicular damage, bring the report and vehicle to our Logan Street Garage for inspection.
e. Request departmental towing service when required. This departmental service is available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 12 midnight by calling GL 5-3070; and on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays by calling MU 6-9700 —extension 44-611.

# Personal Notes

*Torresdale Plant*

Adam Cantz, custodial worker I, has retired under the City's mandatory age provision. Mr. Cantz, 70, entered the department in 1950. He lives at 7125 Ditman Street. His friends at Torresdale wish him the best of luck.

A rumor has been floating around that Arthur Bartlett, lab supervisor, and Ed Weber, chemist, did some floating themselves. They went out to the basins to take water samples. Ed was sitting in the row boat when Bart stepped into it and caused it to sink.

Nancy Joan, daughter of Frank C. Tiano, our meter and gauge mechanic, was wed to Ralph C. Gattis, of 7138 Edmund Street, on May 5 at Our Lady of Consolation Church.

*Administration*

Those interested in former secretaries may be interested to know that Maryanne Leva—Mr. Mullineaux's "right hand"—is to be married in September. She and her fiance have already bought a new home in the far Northeast. Also Deputy Commissioner Max Barofsky's former secretary, Shirley Schaeffer, will be married in July to a Central High School teacher.

*Torresdale Filtered Pumping*

Congratulations to Joseph L. Duke, who married Amelia Coley June 30.

Welcome to our new "transfers": Michael Johnson, operator, who comes from Fairhill, and Robert Rabiger, mechanic, who comes on promotion from Fairhill.

**GOVERNOR REX LEE, of Samoa, left, took time out from a busy July 4 to see the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works. Chemist Joseph Cooper served as guide.**

**CHECKS AND CERTIFICATES are collected from Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, left, by (l. to r.) Sal DiVincenzo, David Garr and David C. Carswell for some bright ideas that improved plant operations. The checks were made possible through the City's Cash Awards Suggestion Program, under which thousands of dollars have been paid to City employees for valuable suggestions.**

# A BRIEF TALE: THREE SMART MEN SEE NEED GET IDEAS, TURN IN IDEAS, COLLECT CASH

Three brainy employees have turned a fast buck.

Sal DiVincenzo, maintenance supervisor, has won $100 for an idea that will keep the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant in operation despite electric power or compressed air failures. Both electricity and air are vital at Queen Lane, where console panels send air signals to filter controls, and the air signals regulate hydraulic (water) signals that in turn regulate water flow through the filters. Breaking of an air line, failure of the air compressor, etc. would once have closed off flow to the filters, shutting down the output of filtered water.

Called a "fair-safe design," Mr. DiVincenzo's modification is made to air and water supply lines. Though costing the Water Department only $196 for changes, the idea may have saved from $20,000 to $60,000 . . . prices quoted by several firms for similar changes . . . and it ensures a constant water supply to one-fourth of Philadelphia's citizens.

David Carswell, welder in Distribution, and David C. Carr, maintenance mechanic at the Southwest Works, had ideas that won them $25 apiece.

Noting that a blower is used to clear the air of working areas filled with smoke, gas or burning fumes, Mr. Carswell suggested insertion of a spiral coil in the collapsible canvas bag attached to the blower, thus enabling the blower to be used also as a suction device without sucking in the canvas bag.

To prevent winter time freezing of rakes on bar screens, which remove heavier debris from incoming sewage at the Southwest Works, Mr. Garr suggested use of metal baffles between channel openings and the screens. His idea has not only saved time in thawing out rakes but has reduced the breakage of shear pins. The screening building is warmer in winter, and many flies and mosquitoes are kept out in summer.

**THE JUST DUE OF CHAMPIONS: John Liberatore, who won the departmental golf tournament, receives his trophy (left) from Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, while (at right) Frank Coaxum, Jr., accepts from the Commissioner a cup for the Survey team, departmental basketball champs. Survey, which is part of the Construction Branch, shut out Design and Administration in two successive games.**

# JOHN LIBERATORE WINS ANNUAL GOLF TOURNEY

John Liberatore, representing the Meter Shop, had to go all out to grab the victory laurels at the Water Department's third annual golf tournament.

The tournament was held this year under threatening skies, at the Cobbs Creek golf course.

John's 74 based on the Calloway handicap system, nosed out defending champion, Joe Stellabotte, of Design, who carded a 75.

Due to wet grounds, the players had to resort to other than usual means in playing the course. It wasn't that the ball wouldn't take the right bounce, it was that the ball wouldn't bounce, period.

Along with the golf trophy goes a cash award of $25, which proves that it is nice work if you can get it.

Below is a list of the participants and their comparative scores.

| *Player* | *Section* | *Player's Actual Par* | *Calloway Score* |
|---|---|---|---|
| John Liberatore, | Meter Shop | 96 | 74 |
| Joe Stellabotte, | Design | 92 | 75 |
| Bill Davis, | Distribution | 92 | 76 |
| Mario Celoni, | Design | 96 | 76 |
| Mickey Rocco, | Design | 110 | 87 |
| Bill Walmsley, | Design | 111 | 89 |

**John Mirkil**

*If you confer a benefit, never remember it; if you receive one, never forget it.*
*—Cicero*

## OFFER MOVIE BARGAIN

Here's another bargain for the discerning movie goer.

The Employees' Recreation Association has arranged with the Boyd theater for special 20% discount tickets for the motion picture, "Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm." The tickets will be available to all members of the association.

The dates for use of the tickets are September 19 and October 11.

## HOW TO SAVE DAY'S PAY - REPORT ADDRESS CHANGES

Employees are urged to report changes of name or address to their supervisors or to the personnel office.

Sick leave investigators on occasion are unable to locate employees because of unreported address changes. In these instances, in future, the employee will be marked "W" and not paid for that day, according to a departmental directive.

**DISTINGUISHED UNIT AWARD WINNERS: The labor maintenance force at the Northeast Sewage Works topped all City departments during City Employees' Week to win the City's highest unit award for esprit de corps and excellence of work. Most of crew is shown: L. to r., Foreman Leo Pallante, Luther Fairley, Joseph Bieber, Julius Britt, Brister Lawton, Nathaniel Williams, Calvin Johnson, Ronald Knight, and Arthur Cobb.**

## FORM NEW TENNIS LEAGUE FOR ALL CITY EMPLOYEES

A City Employees' Tennis League has been formed, open to employees of all municipal departments. The league meets for practice and games each Saturday and Sunday, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Chamounix tennis courts, Ford Road and Chamounix Drive in Fairmount Park.

Open to men and women, experienced and inexperienced players equally, the league provides free instruction for beginners from 11:00 a.m. to noon, and from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tennis balls are supplied to beginners only.

Earl W. Parrott, Department of Public Property, was inaugurated as president of the league on May 30. Other officers are: Vice president, J. Harrison Smith, Department of Public Health; secretary, Ruth Meachem, Department of Public Welfare; and treasurer, Roberta Freedman, Department of Records.

The league played its first big match against the district office of the U. S. Veterans Administration on June 26.

Water Department employees desirous of joining the league should contact John Floyd, room 1128, City Hall Annex, tel. MU 6-3890.

**Sylvia Weiss**

## NOW IS TIME TO APPLY . . FOR FELS INSTITUTE STUDY

Free tuition courses at the Fels Institute of Local and State Government, University of Pennsylvania, are being offered again this year to qualified employees.

The courses, which cover a wide range of subjects in the field of public administration, provide credits which may be applied toward institute plaques and certificates or toward university degrees.

Interested persons should write to the institute for an application form, and submit a college transcript along with the application.

While some courses are given after working hours, others start at 4:30 p.m. Employees taking 4:30 p.m. courses may be granted administrative leave by their supervisors, with the understanding that they will make up the time used. For course offerings, see your bulletin board or write to the institute.

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*Foreigners call all Americans Yankees. Southerners say that Yankees are northerners. Northerners say that Yankees are from the New England states. People in New England say it is the Vermonters who are Yankees. Vermonters reply that a Yankee is just someone who eats pie for breakfast.*

LOUIS KUSNER

## ENGINEER LOUIS KUSNER WINDS UP CITY CAREER

After nearly 30 years of City service, Louis Kusner, an electrical engineer IV in the Design Branch, has retired. He became 70 on June 15.

Mr. Kusner, who was supervisor of the electrical design unit, held a series of responsible engineering positions with the City, dating from 1922 when he entered the old Department of Public Works. An assistant engineer up to 1935, his municipal career was interrupted for a few years by limitations in the City's budget, but he came back in 1946 as a design engineer and continued in this field.

Between 1938 and 1946, Mr. Kusner worked for W. V. Pangborne, Inc., E. I. du Pont deNemours and Co., and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission.

While with the Water Department, he played a key part in the electrical design of many important departmental facilities.

A graduate of Drexel Institute of Technology (1913-16) in electrical engineering, he is a registered professional engineer and a member of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. He lives at 2101 Walnut Street.

## CITY-FEDERAL CREDIT UNION GROWS TO 7,400 MEMBERS IN EIGHT YEARS

One of the most painless ways of saving money—or borrowing it in a hurry—is through the Philadelphia City Employees Federal Credit Union, according to Dennis S. Welsh, president.

The credit union, which is seeking new members among City employees, has grown from 251 members in 1954 to more than 7,400 at present. In eight years its assets have climbed from less than $19,000 to $2.6 million, while 51,000 loans, totaling nearly $18 million, have been made to members.

Mr. Welsh notes that employees who desire to save through the credit union can do so through regular payroll deductions of $1, $2, or any larger sum up to $95. The organization pays a current dividend of 4% on savings.

Repayment of loans is made by applying a portion of each payroll deduction to the principal and interest due on the loan. The balance continues to go to the member's savings account.

Each member receives life insurance at no cost to him. The amount of this insurance up to the age of 55 is equal to the amount of savings which the member has on deposit with the credit union. After 55, the percentage is somewhat less.

The credit union's fiscal affairs are audited regularly by a supervisory committee, with Federal Government examiners also making periodic examinations.

For further information, visit or telephone the Philadelphia City Employees Federal Credit Union, room 806, 1 North 13th Street, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday (hours, 9-12, 2-5), LOcust 3-5895. Credit union membership cards are also available through the Water Department Personnel Office.

# PHILLY MAKES HIT WITH AWWA MEMBERS

Philadelphia as a city of progress is indelibly imprinted in the minds of water works men in all parts of the country, thanks to the recent American Water Works Convention.

The compliments are still coming in. Members liked the way the convention was organized, the varied entertainment provided by the local arrangements committee, the smooth functioning of transportation, the hospitality and courtesy, the excellent press coverage, etc.

Apart from being the biggest AWWA convention—a Philadelphia Water Department man, Frank F. Guarino, was the 4,000th registrant—the 82nd Annual Conference provided an array of able workshop leaders, panelists, and formal speakers on topics of much interest.

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall held up the Delaware River Basin Compact as a valuable new means to efficient use of water resources. From the Water Department, Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, Deputy Commissioner Gerald E. Arnold, and Elwood L. Bean, chief of water treatment, brought important experience set forth in formal papers.

Since the hard working local arrangements committee, headed by Commissioner Baxter and drawn from the Philadelphia area has been listed in an earlier issue, it is only fitting to name here some of the Water Department employees who kept things rolling.

### Cappio Ran Transportation

Few persons were as busy as Safety Officer John Cappio, who became a commander on wheels, arranging daily for the shuttle and special buses, overseeing loading, setting time schedules, and making sure that people got there when they should.

Samuel Schwartz, assistant to the Commissioner, deftly organized historical tours for the ladies and kept the bus drivers on the right routes.

Then there was Mary Schmidt, *News* editorial assistant, who was the composed, efficient focus of brisk press room activities, serving as receptionist, stenographer and question answerer.

At Torresdale, Superintendent John Dillener and his staff hung out the welcome sign for several hundred AWWA members, who took time out to see the plant. Many members also went to Queen Lane and the Load Control Center.

A bow goes also to Charles Tongue and his skilled building maintenance crew who set up the Water Department's convention exhibits as efficiently as they have done in other places on other occasions.

**SECRETARY OF INTERIOR Stewart L. Udall, center, holds a press conference at the American Water Works convention . . . one of many highlights of the week. Below, a few of the scores of exhibits which overflowed the Center Exhibition Hall, spilling into the corridors.**


**FRANK GUARINO, center, of Water Department, was 4,000th registrant at AWWA convention. Wentworth Smith, left, of New York, and Commissioner Baxter are pleased as Punch.**

## SKLAR RUESS AWARD GOES TO CHILDREN'S SUPERVISOR

A memorial award set up by Louis B. Sklar, Electrical Engineer III in the Design Branch, and Mrs. Sklar has been bestowed this year upon Miss Joan Gottlieb, of 5726 Woodcrest Avenue, who oversees children's activities at one of the Police Athletic League centers.

Mr. and Mrs. Sklar established a trust fund in memory of their daughter, Bernice Sklar Ruess, and income from the fund defrays annually an award to an outstanding young woman. The award is made by the Pannonia Ladies' Auxiliary.

Miss Gottlieb received a $25 savings bond and a plaque.

*"Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees all the others."—Winston Churchill.*

BEST INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS: Special bowling trophies went to (l. to r.) Elaine Stevens, highest average; Barbara Johnson, high series; Zurn Winston, most improved bowler; and Edith Frye, high singles. BEST TEAM, below, are Annex players (l. to r.) Dorothy Kutys, captain; Marie Grant, Dorothy Watson, and Florence Graham.

# WOMEN BOWLERS GET TROPHIES . . TROPHIES

One well known supper club was flooded with trophies recently when the women's bowling league of the Water Department held a banquet to mark the end of the season.

It was the first season for the newly organized league, and the ladies had rolled up some eye shattering scores. Hence the well deserved trophies.

The entire story is told in pictures on this page.

MANAGER LEIGH HEBB, above left, gets his trophy from Jack Irwin on behalf of grateful women bowlers.
Below, bowlers, friends and families.

# PAY DAY MAGIC

**By Rosemary Rosenthal**

Pay Day—no other two words seem to have such a magic quality and carry so much pleasurable anticipation. Would some of the "thrill" be lost if we were to be paid weekly? Maybe some day we shall find out.

The bewitching hour arrives and we are handed our pay check. Ah, what matters is, if for two weeks we had to push and shove to get on buses and elevated trains—and if perchance we did spot an empty seat—don't rush to sit down—rest assured, some "gentleman" will get to it before you do. How many untold mornings did you fight the urge to stay in bed—take a day's vacation—pretend you didn't hear the alarm clock go off—but, no, the magic of the pay check loomed in the distance and you knew once you had cashed the check, all the inconveniences would be worthwhile.

### Farewell Dollars

But how long do you have the cash? The utility companies are waiting for their share—and the department stores—can you ever resist them?—are certainly not going to be patient much longer with their bills. Why does City Hall Annex have to be just across the street from Wanamaker's? And why is it so convenient to "cut thru" Wanamaker's to get to Chestnut Street? Chestnut Street . . . another trap for unsuspecting women.

You keep telling yourself you definitely don't need another dress or another pair of shoes—or another of anything—but the stores do have sales and you do love nice things and your will power seems to fly out the doors when the pay check is in the hand.

You keep telling yourself that there will be other pay days and more pay checks (and more August White Sales and End-of-the-Month sales and closing out sales, ad infinitum) as you slyly turn away from the teller's window of the savings bank and blithely tell yourself, "Enjoy yourself, it's later than you think," I swear I'll put my NEXT whole pay check in my savings account! ! !

---

*I knew a wise man that had it for a byword when he saw men hasten to a conclusion: "Stay a little that we may make an end the sooner."—Francis Bacon.*

**IN THE OLD DAYS sewer building was a rugged sport, requiring a lot of muscle. Just about everyone, including the water boy, turned out (above) for construction of the Twin Somerset Street sewers in 1889, and the 1909 Fairhill Street sewer at left also got much attention.**

**THE BRICKLAYERS had a field day, below, with the Mill Creek sewer built in the comparatively open countryside of West Philadelphia. Scene from 1880's shows bend near 47th Street and Haverford Avenue.**

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. JULY, 1963


## TORRESDALE OFFERS MORE THAN WATER

Often during the nice summer weather, a Saturday or Sunday afternoon family drive is in order. May I suggest a visit to the Torresdale Filter Plant. The grounds are tastefully landscaped with broad expanses of lawns, a large variety of shrubs and several attractive flower beds. The flowers have all been raised in a section of the Pre-Treatment Building converted into a greenhouse by Elwood Unruh, Torresdale Gardener.

While out this way, the visit can be extended to the Delaware River where one can see many small boats afloat. The Recreation Department maintains a picnic ground area as well as several pools stocked with fish by Mr. Wm. Brinkman, where boys and girls under sixteen years of age may fish without benefit of license.

The best route to Torresdale Filters, 9001 State Road, (State Road & Linden Ave.) is north on Frankford Avenue, turn right at Linden Avenue and proceed to State Road.

Hope to see you all in the near future.

*—by Rose Sideman*

Boy and his dog enjoy fishing at one of the ponds behind the Torresdale Filter Plant.

### It happened at Bedford

At the Bedford Conference of the Pennsylvania Section of A.W.W.A., it is customary to draw names from a box to select two winners of door prizes, at the end of each technical session. On Wednesday morning, June 5, Elwood L. Bean was asked to draw and came up with Gerald E. Arnold and Robert F. Walker, in that order. That the Philadelphia Water Department was so much involved, caused considerable stir and criticism. The pay-off, however, came when Mrs. Walker drew first prize and Mrs. Arnold the second prize, at the ladies' affair being held elsewhere in the hotel at the same time. We'll leave it to the mathematicians to compute the probability of the coincidence, but delegates throughout the State will be discussing the probability of collusion for a long time.

## *WATER DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES COMPLETE GOVERNMENT TRAINING INSTITUTE COURSES*

In the spring of 1963, ten Water Department employees attended and completed courses given by the Philadelphia Government Training Institute in various areas.

As in previous years, the Water Department is well represented by its employees. We are proud to recognize these persons and commend them on their interest and initiative in taking courses to improve their skills and knowledge. The Water Department and the City of Philadelphia will benefit greatly from their increased value as employees. We wish all of them good luck in the future and hope that the courses they have completed will contribute to their success.

Completing courses this Spring are: Melvin Banks, Jr., Introduction to Data Processing; Alice W. Butler, Preparation for Civil Service Exams; Gwendolyn G. Carter, Advanced Supervision; Albert W. Forman, Advanced Supervision; Robert W. Henry, Jr., Preparation for Civil Service Exams; Frank P. Ingenito, Computer Programming; Maria A. Mansi, Preparation for Civil Service Exams; Carolyn L. Ogden, Preparation for Civil Service Exams; Viola Payne, Accounting Systems; Mary L. Perry, Accounting Systems.

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

*Published by*

THE WATER DEPARTMENT

*Commissioner, Samuel S. Baxter*

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| (Hydraulic) | John Mirkil |
| (Main Sewers) | Mario G. Celoni |
| (Mechanical) | Rocco Giannini |
| (Specifications) | Joseph Mair |
| (Structural) | Morris Siegel |
| Distribution | Richard Supplee |
| Garage (Logan Street) | Lloyd Harrison |
| Mechanical Engineering | John Floyd |
| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
| Northeast Works | Michael Matteo, Joseph Cooper |
| Personnel | Gwenolyn Carter |
| Plant Maintenance | Irwin Baskin |
| Pumping—Schuylkill Division | Roderick Thomas |
| Delaware Division | Beatrice Blum |
| Southeast Works | Ernest Craig |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Operations Office | Sylvia Weiss |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Richard Pinder |
| Roxborough Plant | Carl Righter |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


## NEW MEMBER . . .

**Commissioner Baxter receives certificate of Honorary Membership in City Employees Tennis League from Faulkner Edmonds, Water Department League Representative.**

### SOFTBALL CHALLENGE

The Southwest Softball Team, department champs of '61, has not been admitted to the Municipal League this year.

Since these fellows still play pretty sharp softball, it may be that the present league members are ducking some hot competition.

Any self-respecting team wanting to play the former "Champs," is invited to contact Bob Easley at BA 2-3481, after 5 P.M.

**"Unit of the Year" stands behind Chief, Ellwood Anaheim . . . (l. to r.) Benjamin Pollock, Charles Campbell, Irma Logan, James Harvey, Elizabeth Thompson and Jessie Soligon.**

# CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT UNIT NOMINATED FOR GRAND AWARD AT EMPLOYEES LUNCHEON

The Water Department this year selected for special recognition the Capital Improvements Unit under the supervision of Mr. Ellwood Anaheim. There is nothing spectacular about the work done by these five clerks and two typists: there have been no programs which have hinged upon their emergency service; they have rescued no one; they have solved no previously unsolvable problems. Instead, the employees of this unit are engaged in clerical work of a somewhat unexciting nature. Why then, has this group been singled out for the honor of being named outstanding unit of the Water Department for 1962, and nominated to receive the grand award at the City Employees' Luncheon?

The reason is simply that from day to day and month to month this unit performs its duties in a thoroughly competent, professional manner.

During the year 1962, this unit handled a total of 289 awarded contracts in the amount of $24,164,000. In addition to its staggering workload this unit handled the Accelerated Federal Works Program which was initiated in 1962. In this area alone thirteen Water Department projects were approved for federal aid involving over $2,700,000 in federal funds. If the year 1962 was hectic for this unit the future promises just as much activity as the past. For the years 1963 through 1968 the Water Department's Capital Improvements Program will cost $118,625,000.

In accomplishing their mission during the year 1962, this unit demonstrated its ability to work cooperatively and efficiently toward the accomplishment of their objectives, this has been reflected in their overall effectiveness and superior production in processing to completion 4,700 documents. This involved checking all bids submitted, keeping records of individual contracts and projects of the Capital Budget, preparing and processing all bills in connection with all public works and professional services contracts in the Water Department's Water and Sewerage Operations, maintaining records of all costs, including personnel, contract services, borings, construction contracts, and miscellaneous expenditures, compiling monthly capital item progress reports for review by higher authority and a multitude of miscellaneous duties.

The outstanding manner in which the clerical operations have been performed by this small group of people gives ample justification for their selection and our pride in our "Unit of the Year."

# WATER IS MANY THINGS

*by Richard Pinder*

The faucet is a utility symbol, even as a light switch, a range burner or a telephone. "My cup runneth over," wasn't necessarily referring to an overflow of water, but how many millions run over with water in Philadelphia!

The cup of tea, the watered lawn, the ever ready hydrant, the tingling shower, the refreshing dip in a pool, the drinking fountain, ice cubes—how many please?

Webster would agree that water is a utility. The scientist would say that water is two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen. The small child would say that water is a bunch of rain. To many millions of us it's all of these and much more. To a few of us it is also a source of employment.

Water is amazing in its properties and qualities:

It is the only substance that can exist in two totally different physical states, as a liquid and a solid, at the same relative temperature.

It is recognized as the most versatile and universal solvent since it will dissolve far more substances than any other fluid.

Too much in the lungs or too little in the stomach of a human, can be the cause of death.

It rises upwards, defying gravity and falls down again responding and conforming to gravity.

In one form or another it covers about 72% of the earth's surface and it represents more than 70% of all animal life.

Water supply is the most important service that a municipality can render its citizens. In fact, all other services in some manner depend on the quantity or quality of water provided.

Virtually every city in America pipes water to the homes of its residents, while slightly more than a dozen decades ago, only the wealthy enjoyed this luxury.

The drama of the water that gushes from the open faucet could readily start five, ten or hundreds of miles away. In Philadelphia, no consumer is more than fourteen miles from his water souce, while in nearby New York, the consumer and his water source are approximately 125 miles apart.

Los Angeles, no doubt, holds some sort of record, for its water supply comes from a mountain more than 200 miles away. Starting almost at the Nevada border, it travels unceasingly down the Sierra Nevadas and across the desert to emerge almost with liquid pleasure from the faucets of L.A.

Despite all the wonders of water, it's power, source of succulent foods, uses for recreational pleasures, transportation and to help sustain life, we know only too well that some of these same properties of water have counterparts which bring death to many.

Flood waters inundate, ravish and drown thousands of humans and live stock every year.

Polluted water spreads cholera, typhoid and other epidemic diseases, and is no doubt the greatest single carrier of disease.

Industrial pollutions and other sources of poisons, occasionally find their way to streams and rivers, killing fish, land animals, water fowl, plants and sometimes humans.

Our cup runneth over, for we have no fears as we relish the appetizing glass of crystal clear liquid. It's a hot day, yet as we welcome the sudden thunder shower, we know that it would be much, much hotter were it not for the atmospheric blanket of moisture, some of which is presently conforming to earth's gravitation.

The open faucet is a utility, it pours forth the greatest friend to mankind. An amazing, versatile, indispensible friend. A bunch of rain, a source of employment, or if you please—, simply H2O.

# . . . More Tips on Gardening

*by Elwood J. Unruh* Gardener, Torresdale Plant

By now the garden makers will probably have their gardens planted and, except for enduring chores, can justly anticipate a well earned period of relaxation. However, our relaxing of garden chores cannot be too complete; there is, of course, the job of grass-cutting and trimming, weeding, cultivating, and the watering of lawn and garden.

Doesn't seem very relaxing when the above are all said in one breath, but there are certain methods by which some of these jobs can be all but eliminated, or at least, reduced to a minimum. Taken one at a time and given some thought, each can be accomplished without too much "sweat." Lawn mowing need not be done regularly each Saturday. During hot weather grass should not be cut low and lawns should never, never be "scalped." Weeds and particularly crab grass grow quickly when fully exposed to the sun. "High Cutting" keeps grass high enough to shade the soil surface and keep weeds and crab grass under some control. Of couse, this means that the lawn must be mowed a bit more often than if it were cut very short, but the time required is lessened, trimming is kept at a minimum and raking practically eliminated. A once over lightly mowing job is easier than a time consuming "full treatment" everytime the mower is dragged out. Also, it is more beneficial to the grass if only a small portion of the blade is removed rather than a large "bite." Each time grass is cut it receives a shock and the severity of the shock is determined by the amount of blade removed. During the hottest weather grass stops growing completely, and a regular routine of mowing is not necessary. If one will put a little effort into observing all of these little unique habits of grass, he can be more of a master and less of a slave to his lawn.

If flowers and vegetables grow well, so also will weeds—maybe even better. Cultivating stirs up weed seeds bringing them to the surface and they pop up all over the place once the ground is disturbed. A mulch placed either over the bed area or several inches around each plant

*(Continued on Page 8)*

# TWELVE UNITS WIN SAFETY BANNER

"Green Cross for Safety" banners were presented on May 28, to twelve sections which individually have amassed 50,000 or more consecutive man hours without a disabling injury.

This campaign was started two years ago by the Water Department's master safety committee, John T. Cappio, chairman.

The banners of the National Safety Council were presented by Mr. Charles E. Vickerman, Chief of Water Operations, to representatives of Delaware Pumping Division, High Pressure Pumping Stations, Belmont Water Plant, Queen Lane Water Plant, Torresdale Water Plant, Meter Shop, Northeast Sewage Works, Sewer Maintenance, Construction Branch, Quality Control, Design Branch and Building Maintenance Section. Construction had 254,888 man hours free of disabling injuries during a period of nine months, the largest total in the group.

Between July 1, 1962 and March 31, 1963, the twelve winning sections collectively have rolled up 1,238,015 man hours worked without a disabling injury.

It is noteworthy that Delaware, Belmont, Meter Shop, Sewer Maintenance and Construction are repeaters, having won similar awards last year.

Under the master safety committee campaign, each unit which works 50,000 man hours without a disabling injury receives a banner. Some units because of their large forces and heavy work loads can win the banner in a few months, others require a full year.

The Water Department, for improvement in accident prevention in 1962, has received the Progress Award of the American Water Works Association, and the Achievement Award of the Philadelphia Safety Council.


"Now, watch what he's doing, Miss Phelps, so we won't have to call these expensive repairmen every time it gets a little out of whack!"

Commissioner Baxter with 40 years of service to Philadelphia, welcomes freshmen to Quarter Century Club. (l. to r.) Cirelli, Deas, Gass, Fitzhugh, (S.S.B.), Burnett, Clayburne, Jones . . .

. . . and Bonner, Welsford, Squires, Ceccola, (S.S.B.), Meiers, Welsh, Masino, Brown and Schwartz.

# 20 EMPLOYEES RECEIVE 25 YEAR AWARDS

The Water Department in mid-March honored 20 of its employees for a quarter century of municipal service.

Commissioner Baxter presented gold pins and certificates to the employees at a noon-time luncheon on March 14, in Kugler's Restaurant, Chestnut Street below Broad. Representing a wide variety of civil service jobs, these employees became members of the department's honorary "Quarter Century Club," which now has 168 members with City service of more than 25 years.

A cordial welcome was extended to the old timers by Commissioner Baxter, who knows most of them by their first names. Deputy Commissioner Arnold made amusing introductory remarks, and Eugene Bonner delivered the invocation.

The 20 employees are:

Commissioner's Office: Samuel J. Schwartz, assistant to the Commissioner.

Construction Branch: James J. Gass, Charles W. Bonner, and David Squires, civil engineers; Nicholas Ceccola, structural materials inspector.

Torresdale Water Plant: William F. Brown, chemist; Samuel Cirelli, filter plant superintendent; and Walter Zellman, laborer helper (recently retired).

Belmont Water Plant: Edward Clayburne, equipment operator, and Leon Deas, laborer.

Water Distribution Section: Theodore Fitzhugh, Sr., equipment operator; James A. Gallagher, repairman (recently retired); and James Burnett, laborer.

Other Units: Leon Jones, automotive driver, Water Treatment Headquarters; Rudolph L. Krumm, repairman (recently retired), Meter Shop; Frank Masino, equipment operator, Sewer Maintenance Section; Joseph Meiers, pumping station engineer; Edward Miles, plant helper, and Timothy Welsh, pumping station operator, in various pumping divisions; Henry R. Welsford, sanitary engineer, Water Quality Control and Research Section.

### CLEOPATRA BARGAIN

Note: W.D.E.R.A. discount night for "Cleopatra" at the Stanley Theatre, will be November 4 . . . the day before election day. Watch for later announcement.

# Strictly Personal

Edward Braudy of the Water and Sewers Planning Unit is a proud man, and he should be. His son, Leo Beal Braudy, has graduated with highest honors from Swarthmore College where he majored in English Literature, and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Congratulations to the Braudys!

* * * * *

If you've wondered why Hazel Griffin of Payroll has been beaming so much lately—it's because she became a grandmother for the first time on May 28th. Her daughter, wife of a policeman, gave birth to a son, Kevin Lamarr Bennett, who weighed exactly 7 lbs. Happy babysitting Hazel! !

* * * * *

Congratulations are also in order for "Pat" Celenza of the Water and Sewer Systems Planning Unit on his marriage to Elizabeth Ann Oldt, a center-city secretary, on June 22nd. Upon their return from a Bermuda honeymoon—Pat and his bride will live at 536 Acorn Street in Roxborough. Good Luck . . .

* * * * *

John LaRosa of Accounting was promoted from Accountant II to Accountant III in May, succeeding Jack Irwin who also was promoted, to the Finance Department. We wish success to John and Jack.

* * * * *

Congratulations to Frank Tiana, Meter and Gauge Operator I, at Torresdale Filters who became a grandfather for the second time, in April.

* * * * *

Lots of luck to Joe Moy, Laboratory Technician, who has been promoted to a Sanitarian with the Health Department. Best wishes in your new job, Joe.

* * * * *

Lots of luck to Roland Harper, Chemist II, who has been promoted to Laboratory Supervisor at Torresdale and also to Theodore Baruch, Chemist I, who was promoted to Chemist II.

* * * * *

We were all very pleased when Joseph Gavitt, Pumping Station Operator and union steward at Torresdale Pumps, returned to work after a prolonged absence due to surgery and unfortunate complications afterward. Stay well, Joe! !

## Dick Pinder Elected Recreation Group President

Richard Pinder has been elected president of the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association for the current year.

Recently promoted to sanitary engineer II, in the Quality Control Unit, Dick has been active in the Association for several years . . . as a member of the board of directors, and as vice president. Dick entered the old Water Bureau in 1948 as an assistant chemist. He now plays a vital part in handling consumers' water problems, and is well tempered to provide leadership in social and recreational programs for the more than 700 members of the association.

Other newly elected officers are: vice president, Erwin Baskin, engineering aide at plant maintenance; secretary, Floyd Platton, personnel officer, and treasurer, Melvin Banks, accountant, who is serving his third term.

President Pinder enthusiastically launched a new program designed to provide additional recreational opportunities for the membership, and to attract new members. His program includes such innovations as: a well equipped recreation room, a midsummer picnic and splash parties for members and their families, and a banquet in the fall.

His motto . . . "Togetherness at Work and Recreation."

His word to those who haven't yet joined, ". . . it's not too late to rectify your mistake!"

Margaret, wife of George Baharian, Maintenance Mechanic I, presented him with a new daughter, Brenda Lynn. She weighed in at 7 lbs. 4 ozs. after a caesarean delivery. "Big" sister, Marjorie, age 2, welcomed her new sister with open arms.

* * * * *

We wish a speedy return to good health to the following men absent due to prolonged illness—Angelo Gallo, Pumping Station Operator at Lardners Point Station, and Edward Miles, Plant Helper I, Delaware Division Pumps.

* * * * *

William E. Chase, Ashton Road, Holmesburg, pumping station operator at Torresdale F. W. Pumping Station, will retire in July. He has been employed by the City since 1915, except for the 1930 to 1934 period. You will be missed, Bill, and lots of good luck to you.

* * * * *

Our sincere sympathy is extended to Anthony DiStefano, pumping station engineer at Lardner's Point, on the loss of his mother.

* * * * *

Congratulations to Azad Attarian on his promotion to Administrative Assistant III in Water Operations.

* * * * *

Carl Fink, mechanical engineer, is now the proud grandfather of a baby girl born to his daughter. Lynd Gail Johnson weighed in at 8 lbs. 4 ozs.

* * * * *

The sunshine club at Northeast Sewage Treatment Works held a drawing to select ten employees as their guests at the City Employee's Week luncheon. The lucky winners were: Joseph Mentzer, Matthew Kilroy, William Berry, William Rollins, Anthony Lombo, Charles Meyrick, Stanley Cywinski, Peter D'Amelio, Luther Fairley and Brister Lawton.

* * * * *

We were saddened by the passing away of Rudolph Krum, retired meter repairman II and President of Local 394 for many years.


**LADIES ROOM**

*We see it every morning*
*It happens every day*
*A double file of female clerks*
*Meander on their way.*

*The thing that puzzles all the men*
*And gives the boss gray hairs*
*The girls go in the ladies room*
*Always grouped in pairs.*

*Perhaps the trip is long and rough*
*The hall is dark and lonely*
*But two by two they always go*
*Headed for the "Ladies only."*
*The poor boss stands and tears his hair*
*He's simply torn with grief*
*The day's production goes to heck*
*While the girls go on relief.*

*At one o'clock each afternoon*
*The march begins once more*
*What the dickens goes on out there*
*That cannot wait 'til four?*

*The only way that I can see*
*To make production boom*
*Is to move the whole darn office*
*Into the "Ladies Room."*

# A CURE FOR ALL HEALTH PROBLEMS . . . EXPOSURE TO MICROWAVES

*by Floyd Platton*

As a result of some research done recently into the sick leave of various units of the Water Department, an astonishing fact has come to light. Apparently, the employees of the Load Control Center are absorbing some type of radiation or are exposed to some type of diet which has rendered them practically invulnerable to the various types of diseases which plague most of us. This theory seems to be borne out by the following facts.

At the present time there are 12 employees of the Load Control Center. In 1962, nine of these employees had perfect sick leave records, 2 employees have not had a sick day in 4 years, one employee's record is marred by only one sick day in the past 4 years, 5 employees have had perfect sick leave records in 2 of the above 4 years, one has had no sick leave in 3 out of the last 4 years, and 3 of the 12 have had at least one perfect year out of 4.

It would seem on the basis of these figures that this unit probably has the best unit sick leave record in the Water Department, and, perhaps, in the entire City Service. Of course, it is possible that Vic Pagnotto, Chief of the Load Control Center, has an uncanny knack for selecting healthy employees, but regardless of whatever the reason, it is quite clear that the Water Department has reason to be extremely proud of the employees of this unit.

## NEW APPOINTMENTS

Twelve new employees have entered the department in the past two months. They include:

General Administrative: Seaester Tucker, Keypunch Operator I; Freddylene Bland, Bookkeeping Machine Operator and Manual R. Stein, Accountant II.

Construction: David O. Harmon, Civil Engineer I and William J. DiDonato, Public Works Inspector II.

Design: Thomas M. Handler, Electrical Engineer I and Louis Benoff, Civil Engineer III.

Distribution: Bradley McCauley, Water Distribution Foreman.

Southeast Sewage: Richard Elmore, Sewage Treatment Operator I.

Design: Louis Benoff, Civil Engineer III.

Engineering Bureau: Albert T. Bowyer, Graduate Engineer.

Quality Control: Elinor P. Johnson, Clerk Stenographer II.

## PROMOTIONS

Ten employees advanced to higher civil service jobs in the past two months.

Distribution: Elwood Brocke, from Equipment Operator I to Equipment Operator II; Eugene Henderson, from Equipment Operator I to Equipment Operator II; Melvin T. Beale, from Water Distribution Repairman to Water Distribution Foreman.

Quality Control: Richard D. Pinder, from Sanitary Engineer I to Sanitary Engineer II.

General Administration: John J. LaRosa, from Accountant II to Accountant III.

Northeast Sewage: Alfred B. Miller, from Field Inspector I to Sewage Treatment Operator I.

Quality Control: Theodore Baruch, from Chemist II to Chemist III.

Torresdale: Roland E. Harper, from Chemist II to Water Treatment Laboratory Supervisor.

Construction: Hugh Ireland, from Civil Engineer II to Civil Engineer III, and Benjamin C. Hanson, from Public Inspector II to Civil Engineer I.

# CHANGES IN DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATION AND ASSIGNMENTS

At the direction of Commissioner Baxter, the following changes in organization and assignments have been made. The changes are considered temporary, pending further study and experience.

Effective June 3, 1963:

New Fiscal Unit—is established with responsibility for the following functions:

All accounting and cost functions, rate analysis, operating budget, machine records, and related fiscal functions.

Administrative Services Section — shall be responsible for the following functions:

Personnel, training, safety, administrative analysis, mailroom, reports, public information, and other administrative functions not otherwise assigned.

Mr. Thomas B. Mullineaux is assigned as head of the Fiscal Unit, with the departmental title, Chief Fiscal Officer.

Mr. B. Barney Palmer is assigned as head of the Administrative Services Section, with the departmental and official title of Administrative Services Director.

Mr. Palmer and Mr. Mullineaux will report to the Commissioner, and will attend all Executive Staff meetings.

In addition to other assignments, Mr. Palmer will continue to have overall responsibility for meter shop operation.

The Administrative Analysis Unit shall remain attached to the Commissioner's Office, and under his direction, until the present department management survey is completed.

Effective June 11, 1963:

Mr. Samuel K. Wilson, who has resigned of the effective date, is relieved as Chief, Construction Branch.

Mr. Gerald E. Arnold is assigned to take charge of the Construction Branch. As such he will have the departmental title of Deputy Commissioner, Chief Construction Branch.

Mr. John Briggs is assigned to take direct charge of the design functions of the department, which include the following:

Design Branch, water and sewer systems planning unit, projects control division, capital program planning.

Mr. Briggs will continue to have the departmental and official title of Assistant Chief Engineer.

Mr. Charles E. Vickerman shall continue as Chief, Water Operations, with full responsibility for operation

*(Continued on Page 8)*

# Employee of the Year: HENRY F. KALINOSKI

As is the custom each year, the various departments in the city service select their one employee who more than any other has contributed to the general well being of the City of Philadelphia.

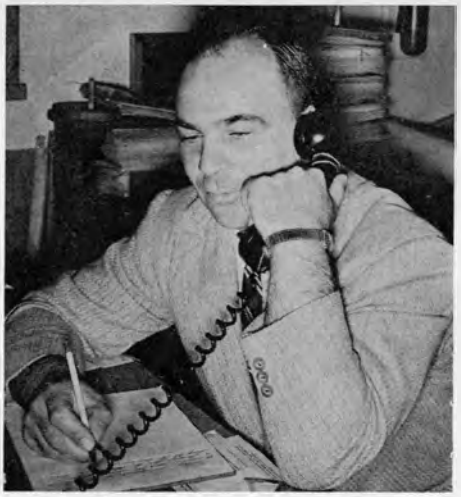
This year it was our privilege to nominate as departmental Employee of the Year Henry F. ("Hank") Kalinoski, Chief, Water Pumping Stations, Delaware Division.

Hank Kalinoski through the years has demonstrated an admirable devotion to duty and a desire to increase his value as an employee through improving his skills and knowledges.

After graduating high school, Hank entered the United States Navy in May, 1941. Two months after his discharge in August, 1946 he began his career of service to the City of Philadelphia as an electrician with the Water Department. He received successive promotions: first to an Electrician Foreman, then to Assistant Chief, Water Pumping Stations and finally to his present position of Chief, Water Pumping Stations, Delaware Division.

As Chief of Delaware Pumps, he has performed his duties in a consistently superior manner. He has accepted responsibility and has given of his own time to meet emergency situations. As a supervisor, he has shown understanding and he has recognized the importance of developing his own employees.

The outstanding contribution made by this employee during 1962 over and above the normal call of duty occurred on December 31, at which time the City experienced extremely cold temperatures. Difficulty was encountered in pumping sufficient water from the Schuylkill River at the Queen Lane Pumping Station, resulting in the temporary halt of all filtration at Queen Lane. At the same time, on the Delaware River because of the direction and velocity of the winds, the high tides at the Torresdale Filter Plant were held back and the storage of usable water was depleted. By midnight of December 31, it was only a question of time when 53% of the City would be without water. Mr. Kalinosky contacted and convinced the captain of a tugboat assigned to the United States Army Engineers' Dredging Operation of the need for immediate aid and action to prevent an imminent crisis. By running the tugboat in front of the intake, and having it churn the water and the bottom of the river at this location,



a flow of water into the suction conduit was obtained. The action of Mr. Kalinoski averted the possibility of a dry Philadelphia for the new year.

It is because of Hank Kalinoski's demonstrated qualities of leadership, his continuous superior performance, his day to day contribution to the health and general welfare of our community and his devotion to duty over and above normal requirements, that he is our "Employee of the Year" for 1962.

## CITY EMPLOYEE VETS GET HELP THRU ASS'N.

The Municipal Employees War Veterans Association meets every 2nd Monday of each month at the F.O.P., 1336 Spring Garden Street at 8:30 p.m. Anyone desiring to join may check with Mr. Charles Bender or Mr. John J. Richmond of the Water Department. Dues are $2.00 per year.

The association has contacts with the Veterans Administration and has been very successful in securing help for its members.

Meetings are conducted in a strictly democratic fashion and any member is allowed the privilege of the floor at any time, on any matter referring to Veterans rights and entitlements.

Additional information may be obtained at the Veterans Advisory Commission, Room 110, City Hall.

# *Maurice Shea, Civil Engineer Retires*

Shea receives farewell gift from Chief Finkelstein as William J. Walmsley and Ernie Hatton watch.

Maurice Shea, a Drexel Civil Engineer Graduate, who reached the age of 70 on May 6, 1963, retired from the Design Division of the Water Department after twenty-two years of City Service.

He was formerly employed as a Civil Engineer in the Department of Public Property's Construction Division on the Broad Street Subway and also on the Market Street Subway.

While in the Water Department, he served in the design of plumbing, heating and ventilation systems.

A luncheon was given for him on March 28, 1963 at Kelly's Restaurant on 12th Street, attended by eighty of his fellow employees. He was presented with a cash gift in a new wallet by Chief of Design, Abe Finkelstein. Morrie intends to use the money towards remodeling his colonial town house at 1523 Wood St., where he will welcome his former fellow employees, and where he will spend his retirement days.


*By I. M. Service*

There are bosses, and there are BOSSES—and when one is employed —he naturally has to have a boss. Generally speaking, men are bosses and it is male bosses we shall try to analyze. Who can abide a woman boss—let's just drop that subject.

Usually the most annoying type of boss is the one who has just been made a boss for the first time and doesn't want to show how "green" he is, so he goes to the opposite extreme and becomes completely obnoxious and acts real superior until he inevitably falls flat on his face. But give the "boy" time—he'll learn.

Of course we have to have the "loud-mouth" boss. He is also unsure of himself—afraid to make final decisions—in case he is wrong (which he usually is), he is always writing memos to his superiors—let them make the final decisions—he is in the clear and won't be blamed. But, of course around the office—especially in front of his timid secretary—he is all blustery and shouting of his importance and how his bosses wouldn't dare make a decision without first consulting him.

And we have the timid boss—they are few and far between—but there are some of those around too. This type of boss probably had a very domineering mother and now is married to a domineering woman and is so hen-pecked he wouldn't know how to command or demand respect from those he "bosses." Consequently, they all do as they please, which frightens our "Mr. Milquetoast" even more and he crawls even further into his shell. His case is pathetic because he is usually a very brillant, kind and understanding man—but he doesn't have the courage of his convictions and is too frightened even to raise his voice, as he certainly should.

And who hasn't had the misfortune to work for the "wise-guy," the "know-it-all?" He is never wrong and don't you forget it! ! Naturally, he is the most misinformed one around; but don't ever let him know that or dare to try to correct him—he absolutely knows everything and if perchance someone is brave enough to point out an error to him he becomes almost maniacal in his desire to have the "upstart" fired or at the very least, suspended.

Are there any "nice" bosses? Of course there are, and thank goodness they are in the majority. These are the real men who make mistakes and are "big" enough to admit it and "big" enough to overlook your mistakes too. They also can understand you may have "off-days" as well as the next person, and treat their "underlings" as human beings. They believe in sticking to the rules and regulations, but also allow for any unforeseen emergency without making a "Federal" case out of it. They have a good sense of humor; do not bring their at-home troubles to the office and can be depended upon to make you feel necessary and important to your job. Let's have more of this kind.

*DEPARTMENT CHANGES*

*(Continued from Page 6)*

of the Water Operations Division.

As Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Arnold will continue as second in rank in the department and shall act as the Commissioner during the Commissioner's absence from the City. He is relieved from responsibility in connection with Water Operations Division, but he shall be available for consultation with Mr. Vickerman if requested, and may be given a temporary assignment in Water Operations during Mr. Vickerman's absence.

Messrs. Arnold, Briggs, and Vickerman shall each report to the Commissioner and Chief Engineer.

Research and Development Unit, under Mr. J. Radziul, shall continue as at present and report to the Commissioner.

Mr. James Brady, in Projects Control Division, shall report to Mr. Briggs for those items of work which are related to design, but may continue the existing practice of reporting directly to and consulting with the Commissioner in matters relating to ordinances, special agreements, builder's commitments, etc.

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*GARDENING*

*(Continued from Page 3)*

eliminates the need for constant cultivating, keeps down the weeds and conserves the moisture in the ground and so weeding, watering, and cultivating are lessened considerably. For the novice, a brief explanation on mulches may be in order.

Several materials are available for use as a mulch. Grass clippings may be used but usually there isn't enough to do a very thorough job, especially if a rotary type mower is used. Rotaries grind up the grass and scatter it. Imported, baled peat moss is widely used. It can be bought in bales and half bales or bushel baskets. This last mentioned is a very expensive way to buy it. When using peat moss it must be wet through before being placed, from about one to three inches deep, around plants. It should never be spread dry and then wet with the hose after being spread. If put on dry it will absorb moisture from the soil. Other materials such as buck wheat hulls and pine bark make excellent and attractive mulches. These two are sold in various size bags with information on the bag explaining coverage. Hay can be used, though, like grass it isn't as attractive as some other materials. A visit to a garden mart or center will be informative.

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1964


CARMEN GUARINO

## CARMEN GUARINO BECOMES CHIEF OF SEWAGE SYSTEM

Carmen Guarino has been appointed chief of sewerage operations.

Mr. Guarino, who recently passed written and oral civil service tests for the position, is not new to the Water Department. He has been with us for 13 years.

Serving for several years as assistant chief of sewage treatment, he was named acting chief of sewerage operations last July, following the resignation of Deputy Commissioner Edward D. Bastian.

Mr. Guarino was born and raised in Philadelphia, is 38 years old, married, and the father of a girl, Cathy, who will be seven in November. The Guarinos live in Lawndale.

A graduate of LaSalle College with a B.S. in chemistry and biology, Mr. Guarino also took various courses related to his type of work at Drexel,

(Continued on Page 10)

# CITY LAUNCHES FLOATING LABORATORY TO COLLECT FACTS ON RIVER CHANGES

### MAD WORLD SPECIAL

If you think "It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World," you can see one version of it on the evenings of February 9 and 11.

The Employees' Recreation Association has arranged special tickets for its members at special reduced prices. These are tickets to the film, which is playing at the Boyd Theater.

The association promises other mad mad mad mad bargains for its members in the coming year. You can still join the association for one dollar dues, and that's not so very mad.

"Why don't you move to Philadelphia, Gibson? I hear they've done wonders with their water."

The new Water Department navy has proudly unfurled its ensign to the breeze.

Now shooting the waves of the Delaware River is the "Aquadelphia," the department's shining new cabin cruiser, engaged in one of the most important (though hardly secret) missions of our time: the study of the river from Reedy Island to Trenton.

Latin and Greek scholars will appreciate the symbolism of "Aquadelphia," meaning "water brotherhood" and implying the common interest which communities up and down the river have in good water. It is also a symbol of the intellectual, rather than recreational, nature of the new navy.

The new cruiser, traveling at speeds up to 32 miles per hour, will be able to cover more of the river in a day than the old row boats could cover in a month. Thirty feet long and 10½ feet wide, it will be a floating laboratory crammed with laboratory counters and equipment. Its steel hull and sound weather proofing will permit its use in all kinds of weather.

#### Need for Cruiser

The need for a specially equipped cabin cruiser has been growing in recent years as the Water Department and the U. S. Geological Survey have expanded their river studies. Although automatic monitoring stations were set up at six points along the stream, the need for a boat which could cover the entire estuary in a day—picking up as many samples as required, reaching various river points at favorable times, and permitting analyses on board—became pressing.

Not only is the new boat fast enough, but it is also suitably

(Continued on Page 2)

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

*Published by*

THE WATER DEPARTMENT

*Commissioner, Samuel S. Baxter*

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


# To All Our Readers A Prosperous New Year

Hostess: "I have a lonesome bachelor I'd like you girls to meet."
Athletic Girl: "What can he do?"
Chorus Girl: "How rich is he?"
Society Girl: "Who are his parents?"
Secretary: "Where is he?"

## HOME SHOW ON WAY

Look for Water Department displays at the Philadelphia Home Show again this year. The show will be held at the Trade and Convention Center the week of February 17 to 23.


**LET'S LOWER THE SCORE IN '64**

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Civilization is a system under which a man pays a quarter to park his car so he won't be fined a dollar while spending a dime for a nickel cup of coffee.

## FLOATING LABORATORY

(Continued from Page 1)

equipped. Besides much special sampling and testing equipment, the boat carries a continuous sampling device—a hose and pump for collecting surface samples through the bottom of its own hull as it moves across river. An electronic depth finder gives quick readings of river depths.

Operated by a two-man crew approved by the U. S. Coast Guard, the boat will carry four or five chemists and sanitary engineers when making studies. Two bunks will permit 24-hour research.

The $16,759 craft is equipped with twin engines of 280 H.P. each, twin screw propellers, twin rudders, two 80-gal. gasoline tanks, two 30-gal. water tanks, a refrigerator for preservation of samples, an enclosed bridge, and sliding windows. The cabin headroom is 6 feet, four inches.

The "Aquadelphia" will be attached to the Water Department's Research and Development Unit, which has logged many hours in midstream in recent years.

**A SMART BOAT for a brainy crew is the "Aquadelphia." Manned by engineers and chemists, the Water Department's new cabin cruiser will greatly aid studies of the Delaware River.**

# GERALD ARNOLD ACCEPTS POST FROM PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT

However hard the wintry winds may blow in Philadelphia, one former Water Department employee won't feel them.

Gerald E. Arnold, who is now basking in the sunshine of Manila, recently resigned as deputy commissioner to accept a position with the Philippine National Water Works and Sewage Authority.

Under a contract with the Philippine Government, Mr. Arnold will serve as special consultant and chief deputy to the authority manager, with responsibility for training staff and advising the manager on water and sewage works operation. The authority was set up by the Philippine Congress to oversee water and sewerage systems in the islands' main cities.

Mr. Arnold has a two-year contract, with a third year option.

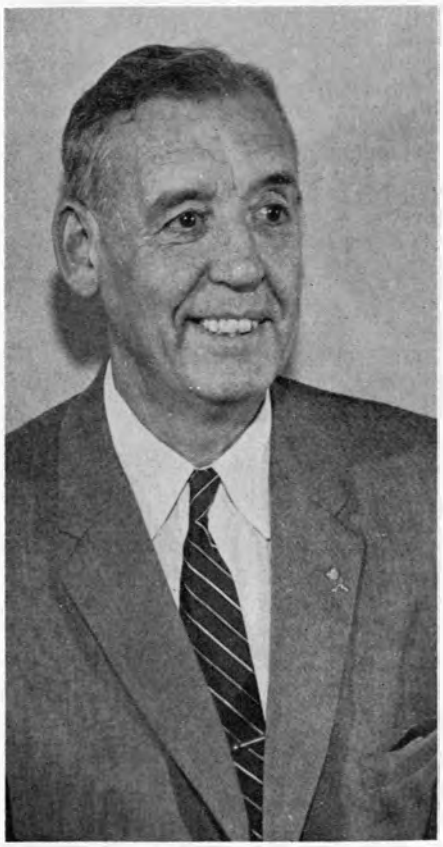
A well known figure to department employees, Mr. Arnold has headed water operations for the past 11 years in Philadelphia. Within the past few months, he has also supervised the department's construction activity.

### Improved Water System

"We shall miss Jerry Arnold," said Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, "and many of our water customers will miss him. He has done an outstanding job in providing good water for our city. To him belongs no small part of the credit for transforming our old water system into a modern, efficient system."

Mr. Arnold came to Philadelphia from San Diego, Cal., where he served as director of the water department for seven years. A civil engineering graduate of Colorado State University, he has held various positions in this country and abroad.

He worked for the Denver water system, spent two years in Honduras with the United Fruit Company, was construction superintendent for a Colorado contracting firm, and served as chief engineer with the Western Oil Drilling Company, a California firm. From 1930 to 1941 he was chief of water purification for the San Francisco Water Department. During World War II, he served as a major and lieutenant colonel in the U. S. Public Health Service. Mr. Arnold and his wife, Elizabeth, have two children and four grandchildren.



GERALD E. ARNOLD

# PAST AND FUTURE APPEAR IN COLORFUL 1962 REPORT

Recently off the presses is the Water Department's Annual Report for 1962.

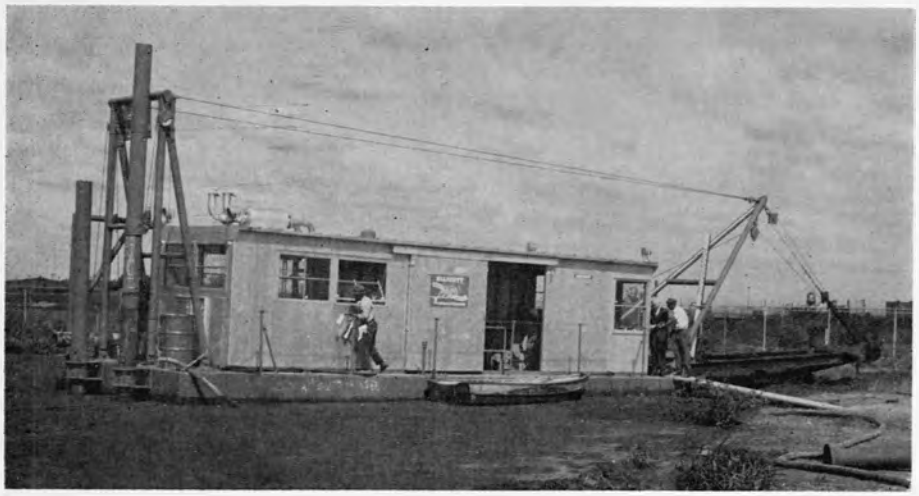
The two-color, 52-page report, contains more than 60 photographs of 1962 events and is written in easy to read English. It covers practically every phase of departmental planning and achievement.

A handsome report—in the fine departmental tradition of recent years—the report is being widely circulated among utilities across the country, as well as among local civic, business, and engineering groups. Past Water Department reports have vied with the best reports put out by other water utilities, and have drawn many favorable comments from other cities. The 1962 report is in the same high class.

A special feature is a "Conclusion" written by Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter. In this the commissioner outlines some of the future problems which the department will face.

Copies of the report may be obtained by writing to the Commissioner's Office, Room 1103, City Hall Annex, or telephoning MU 6-3803.

**TORRESDALE FILTERED WATER Pumping Station gets new valve and pipe connections to a big feeder main that comes down from the Torresdale Treatment Plant. Job is part of station modernization.**



# NEW DREDGE PUMPS OUT LAGOONS - CITY GETS "MORE FOR ITS MONEY"

One of the City's busiest machines is the new floating dredge at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works. Since November the dredge has pumped two million gallons of sewage sludge from overflowing lagoons to a barge that transports the sludge to sea.

Although the Northeast Works has barged its sludge to the Atlantic Ocean for nearly two years, the sludge — until recently — was taken only from digester tanks, never from lagoons. The digester tank sludge is 95% water, that from the lagoons only 90%.

By clearing the lagoons of their present loads, the plant will be able to use them for future evaporation of some water from all its sludge before this is sent to sea. Thus twice the amount of solids will be carried to sea for the same money.

The floating dredge, with roomy deck house, long manipulable dredging ladder, and multi-bladed revolving cutter, breaks up the sludge in the lagoons through a cutting action, and then pumps it through a 3,200 ft. pipeline.

Capable of pumping a minimum of 1,750 gallons of sludge (with 10% solid content) per minute, the dredge can pump up to 4,000 gallons per minute when the material to be pumped is suitable. Its cutterhead can dig to a depth of 20 feet below the surface of the water.

**CATHY GUARINO christens the department's new hydraulic dredge (above left) with bottle of soda pop. Cathy is seven-year old daughter of Carmen Guarino, chief of sewerage operations.**

**DREDGE OPERATOR manipulates long dredging "ladder" and revolving cutter from control booth. Pump at right can pump up to 4,000 gallons of sewage sludge per minute.**

**JOHN S. LAVORINI**

**Promoted to**

**Maintenance Mechanic I**

See Next Page

# NAME WALTER YOKA NEW SUPERVISOR AS 38 EMPLOYEES OBTAIN PROMOTION

That Water Department employees are on their toes is evidenced by 38 civil service promotions in recent months.

Among those promoted is Walter Yoka, who has been named a supervisor in Sewer Maintenance. Mr. Yoka was appointed a foreman I in 1954 and upped a grade three years later.

One of the department's expert sewer "doctors," Mr. Yoka helps to keep 2,400 miles of sewers in good shape . . . investigating sewer breaks, checking repair jobs, looking for water seepage, and overseeing the work of his subordinates. Before joining the department, he was a sergeant-major in the U. S. Army.

Also promoted is a 19-year man, Herman Korhan, who entered the City service as an engineering draftsman in 1944. For several years Mr. Korhan worked as a civil, and then hydraulic, engineer I in the Design Branch, and then was transferred to the newly formed Water and Sewer Systems Planning Unit in 1961. There Mr. Korhan has helped to solve some of the tricky problems of old sewer reconstruction. He has been promoted to hydraulic engineer II.

### Other Promotions

*Northeast Works:* John S. Lavorini, from pumping station mechanic helper to maintenance mechanic I; George B. Honnen, Jr., from electrician to electrical foreman I; Richard S. Wiggins, from sewage treatment operator I to labor foreman I; and Calvin C. Johnson, from laborer to plant helper I.

**LEONARD W. TAPPER**
**Electrical Engineer II**

**ROBERT CHANIN**
**Public Works Inspector I**

*Construction:* Richard Thompson, William H. Collins, John E. Flager, Jr., and Robert Chanin, from engineering aide II to public works inspector I; James D. Holden, from engineering aide III to public works inspector II; and Daniel J. McCusker, from load control dispatcher to mechanical engineer II.

*Distribution:* Raymond W. Zelinski, Vincent Washington, and Charles M. Russo, from repairman to emergency repairman; James D. Pickett and Joseph Rozier, from repairman trainee to repairman; Louis Barnes, Jr., Jacob Lowman, Jr., William Cook, James R. Rawls, and Javester Little, from laborer to repairman helper; and Kathleen T. McCann, from clerk stenographer I to II.

*Sewer Maintenance:* Carl A. Lepping, from foreman I to II, and James D. Fuller, from laborer to foreman I.

*Design:* Leonard W. Tapper, from electrical engineer I to II, and James A. Phillips, from engineering aide II to III.

*Engineering Office:* John J. Coscia and Robert Weszinger, from graduate engineer to civil engineer I.

**GEORGE B. HONNEN, JR.**
**Electrical Foreman I**

**RICHARD S. WIGGINS**
**Labor Foreman I**

*General Administration:* Sam Halter, from administrative intern to administrative analyst II, and Abraham B. Weiner, from management trainee to personnel technician I.

*Others:* Harold O. Rumsey, from clerk typist I to II, Southwest Works; Ronald J. Coleman, from field inspector I to field representative, Customer Service; Julius E. Mudry, from engineering aide III to civil engineering I, Water and Sewer Systems Planning Unit; Victor Michnowicz, from engineering aide I to II, Water Main Records; Alexander Dukes, from laborer to semi-skilled laborer, Building Maintenance; Horace Bradley, from trades helper to automotive mechanic, Logan Garage; and James A. Hunter, from laborer to mechanic helper, Water Operations.

# FIFTY MILLION GALLONS OF WATER TO POUR INTO UNDERGROUND "CAVES" AT TORRESDALE

Any wine cellar restaurateur would heave a big sigh if he could see them. Up on State Road are 21 huge underground caverns, which could hold enough wine vats to keep a restaurant going for years.

But, alas, there will be no "dining under," by candle light. The Water Department plans to fill these man-made caves with water.

The yawning grottoes once formed part of the slow-sand filters of the Torresdale Water Plant, but when a new plant opened in 1959 the underground filter beds went out of business. Now the beds are being turned into storage basins for filtered water from the new plant. At first 21 beds . . . a little later 44 other beds.

With 90,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel gone, the first 21 slow-sand beds are nearing Deluge Day. Fifty million gallons of water will be poured into them through mammoth concrete conduits that glare with bright whiteness from the bottom of deep trenches.

Before the deluge descends, the caverns are worth a quick visit. Their arched columns, vaulted ceilings, cement walls and floors give them the look of a sunken city. Connected by newly cut 4′ x 4′ "doorways," they form a series of underground labyrinths, softly illuminated by half-moon openings to the outside courts. In many of them blue-brick baffle walls, reaching part way to the ceiling, stand ready to ease the surge of the water when it enters.

**BIG CONCRETE branch main (above) will carry water to new underground storage basins at Torresdale. Water flow to basins will be measured by large Venturi tubes (above left).**

Coming from the outside courts—dust covered because of construction—the visitor clambers down a ladder into the cool vastness of the grottoes. With 13-ft. high ceilings, the grottoes extend individually 133 x 253 feet, and the visitor can walk in clean comfort from one to another. On a hot day the cool wine cellar temperature is refreshing; on a cold day there is warm protection from the river winds that sweep across the open courts.

The underground quiet is occasionally punctured by the hiss of a "spray gun" shooting a mixture of sand and cement into a crack.

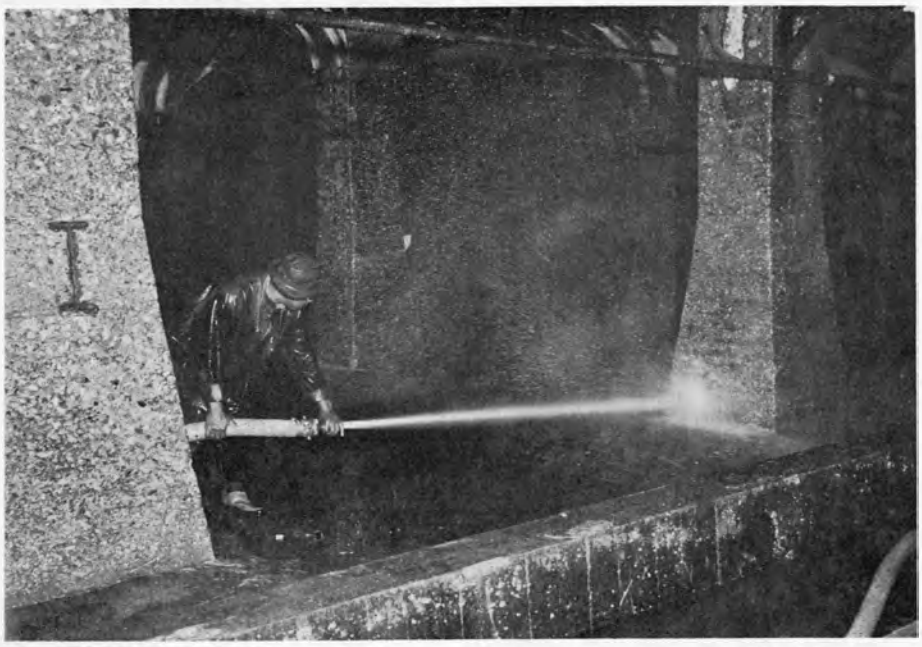
### Ingenious Drainage

For the visitor with a scientific bent there is something of interest in these caverns. The contractor has installed a "Rube Goldberg" system for collecting and draining off overhead rain water. This system is ingenious: The rain, soaking through the layers of earth above the cement ceilings, collects in hollows above the pillars: there it filters through tiny beds of sand and gravel, which strain out impurities; then it passes into hoses connected to long thin pipes that stretch the length of the pillars inside the grottoes; from these small pipes it passes into bigger, six-inch pipes,

(Continued on Page 7)

**ADEQUATE WATER FLOW to the new basins will be assured by this 11-ft. diameter conduit (center), with first of several planned 7-ft. lines branching from it.**

# TORRESDALE RESERVOIR TAKES SHAPE



**WORKMAN SEALS a crack in an underground grotto pillar by shooting a mixture of sand and cement into it under high pressure.**

**PHOTOS: Above, huge concrete supply mains ready for joining. Below, example of extensive sheathing and shoring with wooden beams for deep trench work; also view of an old filter bed cleared of its sand and newly equipped with drainage pipes.**

## UNDERGROUND BASIN

(Continued from Page 6)

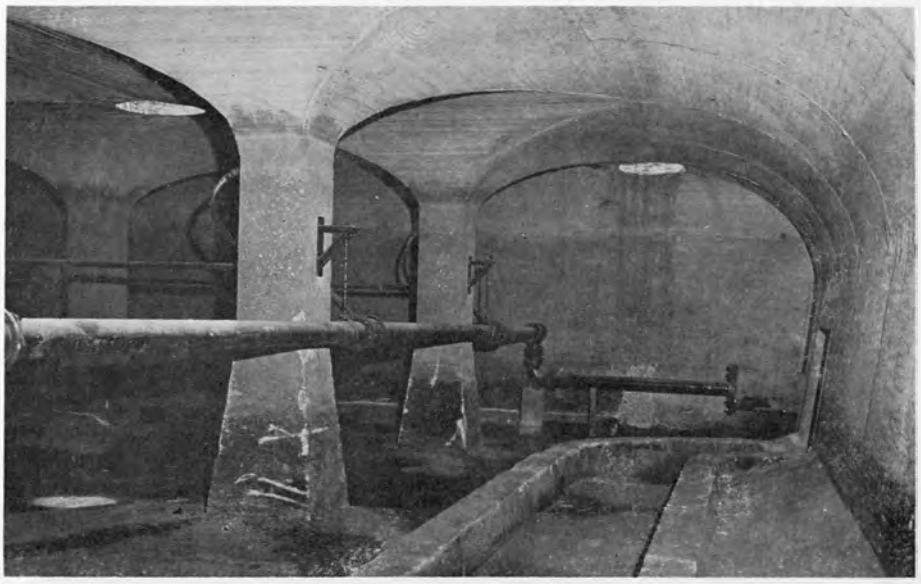
and is carried off through big underground conduits. The purpose of this system is to keep rain water from contaminating the treated water which will be stored in the grottoes.

Preparation of the 21 grottoes is only part of the $1,890,000 job now nearing completion. Scarcely less impressive are the huge concrete pipe lines, ranging from five feet to 11 feet in diameter and laid at depths of 14 to 23 feet.

An 11-ft. conduit, which extends from the Torresdale post treatment building to the edge of the courts, was built several years ago in anticipation of the basin construction. This conduit now shoots 7-ft. diameter branch lines down the first court, and 5-ft. lines radiate from these to the new basins.

Still to come is a system of sophisticated electronic controls for the new storage basins. At the Torresdale filter building an operator will be able to regulate flow from the basins by setting a dial. He will also be able to control remote valves and a residual pump, and will receive data continually on the basin water level and rate of flow.

There will be no candle light glamour, but there will be plenty of pushbutton progress.



# WATER DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES GIVE $26,231 TO UNITED FUND FOR MANY COMMUNITY NEEDS

Generosity flowed in the Water Department again this year as 1,416 employees gave $26,631 to the United Fund for a variety of community health, welfare, and other services. The 1,416 employees represented 92% of the department's enrollment, and they gave an average of $18.80 each.

Although the Water Department was unable to reach its $29,849 United Fund goal, its contribution represented 90% of this—a percentage considerably higher than that achieved by many other large City departments.

As in past years, middle and upper management personnel helped to raise the Water Department's total contribution through "Fair Share" giving. This giving was in line with the gifts of similar personnel in private industry. Employees at every level, however, had a share in the final result.

More than 250 private agencies are represented by the United Fund. These agencies care for the orphaned, the aged, the mentally retarded, the sick, and the many other groups in need of help or guidance.

## A TIP ON PARKING BRAKES

A recent industry change affecting all passenger cars and trucks is being called to the attention of all drivers. This change concerns the parking brake, often called the "emergency" brake.

The new design of the brake assembly represents a definite improvement, if one understands how to use it for maximum effectiveness. You need to remember one thing when parking a vehicle and using this parking brake. Change your driving habit so that each time you put your parking brake on, you completely depress your foot brake at the same time. When this is done, the brake shoes will be completely engaged and the vehicle will not be allowed forward or backward movement.

## CAN YOU TOP THIS?

One Water Department employee —Samuel Lewis—heads an "All City Family."

A partially disabled policeman, he has worked as a clerk in the Construction Branch for some time. He counts three sons in City service—one a policeman, another a park guard, and still another a fireman. In addition, he has two sons-in-law who are policemen.

---

Just about the time you are ready to make ends meet—somebody moves the ends.

**THOSE $25 U. S. SAVINGS BONDS will come in handy for William Barbier (left) and Philip Barrale (right) as they start retirement. Supt. Thomas Beaudet presents bonds on behalf of co-workers in building and plant maintenance. Standing l. to r., Messrs. Vicario, Golderer, Smith, Baskin, Olexa, Stenson, Ricciardi, Burns, Solomon, and Caprara.**

# *Strictly Personal*

### Delaware Pumping

Two of our co-workers at Torresdale Raw Water Station have retired. William Jackson on August 18 after 18 years of City Service and Paul Bream September 14 after 20 years. Both were pump operators. We wish them the best of luck.

We extend big welcomes to Dewey Etherton, mechanic helper, James Hunter, mechanic helper, and Louis Solomon, clerk I. They are transfers to Delaware Division Pumps.

A speedy recovery to Charles Silvestri, who underwent an operation; a quick return of health also to Steven Lorenti.

### Accounting

Wedding Bells: Bill Carey, a co-op student, on November 9; Miss Brenda Stephens now Mrs. James Warren; and Wesley O'Neill last June to Frances Clark. They all seem mighty happy about it.

The stork recently delivered a girl to Mrs. Loretta Harris.

### Customer Service

Welcome to two new Customer Service men, Stanley McLean, who left the Department of Collections, and Joseph McCafferty, who stepped over from the Meter Shop.

Wedding bells tolled September 28 for Carolyn Stewart, who married Gerald Flint at Holy Souls Church. Customer Service voted Carolyn "most beautiful bride of the year."

Our best wishes go with William Snyder, who retired after 20 years with the City.

Here's hoping that John Monaghan recovers quickly after his recent operation.

### Southeast Works

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Jackson who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary September 28.

Also to Donald McCoy, who walked down the aisle with Constance Robinson October 19.

Charlie Flanagan is reported to be doing a "swell job" as recreation leader at Southeast.

### Construction

After a summer of illness, Mrs. Birdie Ziegler came back to work September 30 minus her cane. We were happy to see her.

Within recent months, Construction has added two division engineers and four assistant division engineers to its payroll. E. Ferrero and R. Boggs became division engineers, and E. Dunnigan, H. Ireland, C. Pennoni and D. Anderson were named assistant division engineers.

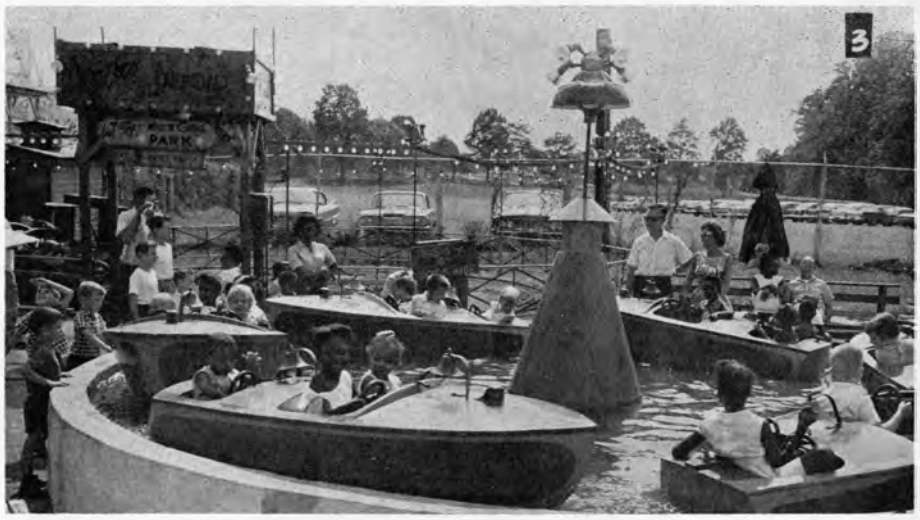
### Administration

Joan Greene, secretary to Safety Officer John Cappio, was married October 12 to Isaac Albright. Joan was given a party by her co-workers, plus a large comforter.

Eugene Mudry, civil engineer in WSSPU, has been the picture of pride since August 23 when his wife gave birth to their first child, Stephen, who weighed in at 7 lbs. 6 ozs.

We regret to note the death of Mario Lalli, a young engineer in the water and sewer systems planning unit, together with his bride, Emily, in a jet plane crash at Elkton, Md., on December 8. The youthful couple were married on November 23 and were just returning to Philadelphia from a honeymoon in the Virgin Islands.

# SOME MEMORIES OF LAST SUMMER



**BIGGEST EVENT** of last summer was the Water Department picnic at Willow Grove Park. One thousand employees and family members turned out for a day of sunshine and fun. Photos: (1) Refreshment stand does a brisk business, while (2) golfer William Snyder gets ready to sink one, and (3) children enjoy one among many free rides.

**AFTER GRAND TOURNAMENT** of City Employees' Tennis League, Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter presents a trophy to Henry Lipmanson, of Finance Director's Office, who won the men's senior singles.

Photo: Courtesy of Evening Bulletin

**IRATE WATER CUSTOMERS** picket a closed fire plug on a hot summer day. Water Department crews were forced to close hundreds of illegally opened fire hydrants last summer to preserve water pressures. Some customers, alas, were quite vocal about the shut-off.

# From The Editor's Box

## BAXTER RECEIVES AWARD

For organizing and heading a new Boy Scout district, Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter received a Distinguished Service Award December 7. The award was presented to the Commissioner at the annual dinner of the Philadelphia Boy Scout Council's Schuylkill district, and is the district's top award.

Under Mr. Baxter's leadership, the district, which is located in North Central Philadelphia west of Broad Street, has grown to 50 Scouting units and 1,000 Boy Scouts in just four years.

## RECREATION GALA DRAWS 200

Two hundred members and relatives attended the Fall banquet of the Employees' Recreation Association November 30 at the Latin Casino, Cherry Hill, N. J.

There was a floor show, plus music by Ray Charles and his orchestra. It is reported that some guests danced on the tables.

## FROZEN NORTH CALLS HIM

One Water Department employee has taken off for a cooler climate. Richard Bunker, maintenance mechanic II in the Delaware Pumping Division, resigned November 1 to work for R.C.A. at Thule, Greenland. Mr. Bunker also became a father for the third time on October 17.

## NAME GAVIT PRESIDENT

Joseph Gavitt, a pumping station operator in the Delaware Pumping Division, has been elected president of Water Department Local 394, Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO.

# THIRTY NEW WORKERS COME INTO DEPARTMENT

Thirty new employees have entered the Water Department in the past few months. They are:

*Sewer Maintenance:* Samuel Q. McQueen, sewer crawler; John Murray, laborer; and Vincent Mannello, brick mason.

*Meter Shop:* Harry E. Moore and Lee Natson, equipment dispatcher I; Eleanor Jones, clerk typist I; and Theodore Butler, Jr., field inspector I.

*Construction:* John H. Thompson, public works inspector I; Duncan B. Hubley, graduate engineer; Paul R. Wesselt and Arthur S. Waxman, engineering aide II.

*Design:* Ivan Siryj, civil engineer I; Thomas Hickey, III, and Murray J. Cowan, graduate engineer.

*Northeast Sewage Works:* Alan F. Hess, graduate engineer; Albert Collins, Jr., sewage treatment operator I; Ronald Haisfield and Martin Lozanoff chemists I.

*Distribution:* Stephen T. Adamof, repairman; Kenneth Mobley, Paul D. Clemens, and Roy Lewis, repairman helpers.

*General Administration:* Cecile I. Tickner and Jethro Savior, clerks I; and Wilhelmenia Kelly, clerk typist II.

*Others:* Willis M. Smith, trades helper in Building Maintenance; Ruth Thompson, clerk typist I in Customer Service; Theodore Stevenson, sewage treatment operator I at Southeast Sewage Works; James R. Wallace, engineering aide I in Sewerage Administration; and Cornelius M. DeGeus, electronic technician I in Load Control.

# WALTER RINGER A PIONEER IN WATER QUALITY STUDIES

Quality Control and Research, mourns the death of its supervisor Walter C. Ringer, Jr., who passed away last August 3.

Walt, as he was popularly known to the department, worked in the old filtration section at Belmont Filters, pioneered with the laboratory section, and took part in special research projects in the programs of the water works improvement studies.

His contributions at Belmont were many and much of this work was the precedent of the latter-day Quality Control and Research Section. With the formation of this section, he was appointed Sanitary Engineer III, and served as it's supervisor until his death.

Walt was a registered professional engineer and was active in several professional organizations, principally the A. W. W. A. and the Pa. W. W. O. A., who in recognition of his service, interest and work in the water works field and his contributions to the various committees, honored him with the I. M. Glace award in 1959.

Many are the friends and associates who mourn the passing of Walter C. Ringer, Jr.

**Richard Pinder**

# CARMEN GUARINO

(Continued from Page 1)

Pennsylvania State College, Temple U., and Manhattan College, N. Y. He is a sanitary engineer and a registered professional engineer in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Guarino is a member of ASCE, Water Pollution Control Federation, on a six-man board covering all of Pennsylvania for certification of men wanting to become sewage treatment plant supervisors, and also on about 10 engineering committees. As though this weren't enough, he also gives talks at meetings and conventions and these are later published in engineering papers and journals; such as his article in the May, 1963 issue of the Journal of the Water Pollution Control Federation.

Mr. Guarino's hobby is trying to keep his family happy. He and his wife, Annette, love to travel and used to go to Florida each winter, but can't do that any more now that their daughter attends school. He feels this is a very challenging job—very interesting with lots of possibilities and opportunities to learn. We wish Mr. Guarino lots of good luck in his new position and are certainly appreciative of his happy smile and cheery "Good morning" every day.

**Rosemary Rosenthal**

"I won't be in today, boss. I feel below par."


PHILADELPHIA, PA. NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1964

## *RALPH HOOT TO RECEIVE HIGHEST NATIONAL AWARD*

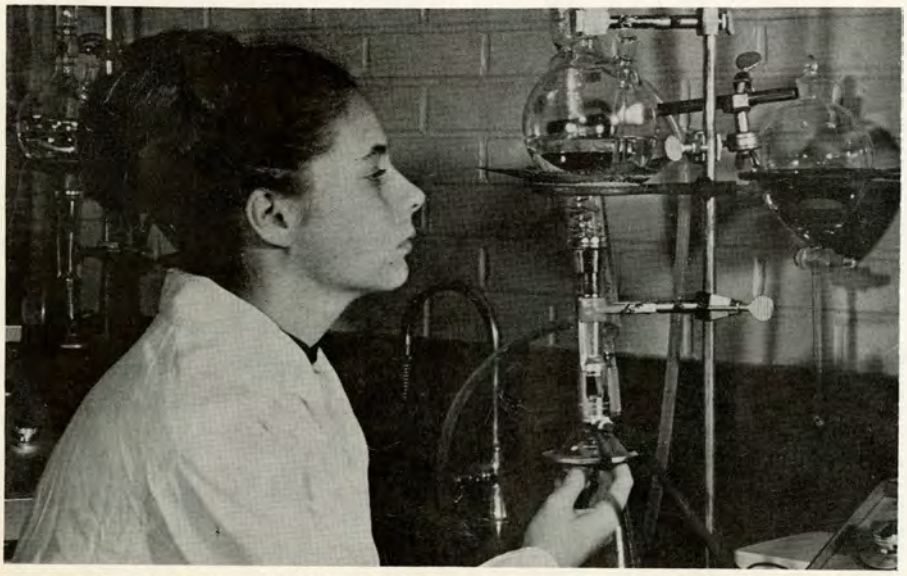
One of the highest honors in the field of water pollution control will be conferred on Ralph A. Hoot, the department's veteran chief of sewage treatment.

At its recent convention in Miami, the National Water Pollution Control Federation designated Mr. Hoot to receive the Hatfield Award. This award is conferred annually on a handful of outstanding sanitary engineers, who have done most to advance the clean-up and protection of the nation's water resources.

Mr. Hoot will receive his award officially next August at the annual conference of the Pennsylvania branch of the federation. He will be cited in part for many technical writings and high supervisory competence.

(Continued on Page 16)

RALPH A. HOOT



**COVER GIRL for the Water Department's recently published 1963 Annual Report is Helen Chain, a Drexel engineering student assigned to the Water Quality Control Laboratory. The attractive, illustrated report is now available at the Commissioner's Office.**

# TO BUILD $2 MILLION RIVER INTAKE FOR TORRESDALE TREATMENT PLANT

Water from the Delaware River will reach the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant more efficiently and at lower cost in future years.

Work has started on new "push-button-type" intake facilities along the Delaware River near the plant. The new intake, which will funnel river water into a huge riverside settling basin belonging to the plant, will be built under contracts totaling $2,138,700.

The new facilities will be built inside a large cofferdam, which is being constructed across the east (or river bank) dike of the settling basin. Part of the cofferdam will project into the river and part into the basin.

### To Build Cofferdam

Among the facilities to be built inside the cofferdam will be 16 watertight sluice gates (4 ft. x 7 ft. each), various underwater screens and rakes, 16 large 42-inch butterfly valves, and, surmounting these facilities, an attractive one-floor building equipped with automatic controls. The river water will flow through the sluice gates, screens, and valves beneath the building, to enter the 176 million-gallon basin.

The intake building, 120 feet long and 69 feet wide, will be constructed of reinforced concrete and brick, with aluminum window frames topped by glass blocks. It will be equipped with extensive automatic equipment for water sampling, recording of water pressures and levels, operation of mechanical devices and application of chlorine and chlorine dioxide to the inflowing river water. Other features will include pumps for flushing and dewatering, a ventilation and dehumidification system, a monorail hoist, rolling steel doors, and steel

(Continued on Page 12)

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

*Published by*

THE WATER DEPARTMENT

**Philadelphia, Pa.**

*Mayor, James H. J. Tate*

***Commissioner, Samuel S. Baxter***

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| Meter Shop | Harry Yablin |
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| Plant Maintenance | Irwin Baskin |
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| Delaware Division | Beatrice Blum |
| Southeast Works | Ernest Craig |
| Southwest Works | Henry Hoochuk |
| Water Operations Office | Sylvia Weiss |
| Water Treatment | Dave McDermott |
| Belmont Plant | Vacant |
| Torresdale Plant | Rose Sideman |


**NATIONAL AWARDS OF MERIT for new underground reservoirs at Torresdale are held by Deputy Commissioner Charles E. Vickerman (left) and Norman Abel, of Morris Knowles, Inc. The awards from the U. S. Community Facilities Administration were accepted by Mayor James H. J. Tate (right) from Warren Phelan, representing CFA.**

## *NEW RESERVOIRS WIN NATIONAL DESIGN AWARD*

A Water Department job is one of 20 "outstanding" Accelerated Public Works projects in the nation, according to the U. S. Community Facilities Administration. The job is the conversion of 60 acres of abandoned filter beds at Torresdale into underground reservoirs, holding 138 million gallons of purified water.

In recognition of this $4,352,000 project, CFA recently presented the City with two awards for "design excellence." Mayor James H. J. Tate accepted the awards in a formal ceremony. One award went to the Water Department, the other to the design engineers, Morris Knowles, Inc., of Pittsburgh.

## DON'T JUST TELL YOUR PALS REPORT IT TO THE CITY TOO

Report that street pothole, burned out street light, debris strewn lot, broken water main, open fire hydrant, abandoned car, smoke hazard, etc., etc. The City wants to know about conditions that should be corrected. As a City employee, you can help. Your supervisor has a special report form for your use.

## SAM GERSON REPRESENTS CITY AT OLYMPIC GAMES

When the International Olympics opened in Japan on October 10, one faithful fan was on hand. He was Samuel N. Gerson, civil engineer in the Design Branch, who rarely misses the Olympic games.

Sam's interest, however, was more than that of an interested spectator. He was there as secretary-treasurer of Olympian International, which is comprised of former Olympic stars and athletes. He was also Mayor James H. J. Tate's authorized ambassador of good will, charged with presenting a photograph of Independence Hall to Dr. Ryotaro Azuma, Mayor of Tokyo.

**SAMUEL N. GERSON**

Back in 1920, Sam was runner-up in the featherweight wrestling championship at the Olympic games held in Belgium. Later he was prime mover in organizing Olympian International, and visited many countries to interest former Olympic athletes in the organization. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, he lives at Penn Center House.

# NEW CITY OFFICES GLEAM "WELCOME"

Of all the new buildings rising in and around Penn Center, one of the most eye appealing is the new Municipal Services Building.

The grace and style of the new home for 2,800 City employees are becoming daily more evident. Off-white in color, shaped like a Greek cross, the building is nearing completion. The exterior facing, consisting of precast stone panels, is now in place, and the windows project to give a richly embossed pattern. Several lower floors are ready.

During the next few months, as each floor is finished, City departments will be moving into the new building, starting with the ground floor. For Water Department employees in City Hall Annex, this move will come late in January, since they will occupy the 11th and 12th floors of the 18-story structure.

What will working in the new building be like?

There will be a number of changes.

**Comforts of Home**

For City employees, many of these changes will be welcome: Air conditioning throughout; tinted windows to reduce glare; vertical, split-type Venetian blinds and cheerfully decorated walls; powder rooms with lounges; gaily upholstered furniture; self-service, automatic elevators; and a mail room on each floor, served by a dumb-waiter.

Because of the shape of the building, there will be plenty of natural lighting.

Another welcome change (since it will eliminate much confusion) will be the centralization of most dealings with the public. Citizens will be able to get fast action on applications, licenses, permits, bill payments, etc., in a large Public Service Concourse. Here City employees will be able to service 2,000 persons at one time. The Water Department will also have a specially trained Customer Service representative on duty in this concourse.

Those Water Department visitors who have other business will be greeted on the 11th floor by the department's receptionist, sitting in an attractive library-reception area, lined with walnut paneling, colorful furnishings, and shelves of useful publications. Here the visitor can obtain directions to appropriate offices, receive copies of brochures, or do research in some old annual report. The library will also be available to employees.

Occupying the 11th floor will be the Commissioner's staff, Water Operations, Sewerage Operations, the Administrative and Fiscal Divisions, Projects Control, and the Research and Development Unit. There will also be a Plan Room and a Conference Room—the latter to be shared with another department.

Units on the 12th floor will include Construction, Water and Sewer Systems Planning, and personnel attached to the fluid network analyzer. The department's good neighbor on the 12th floor will be the City Controller's Office.

**VALERIE ARMSTRONG**
**In "Who's Who"**

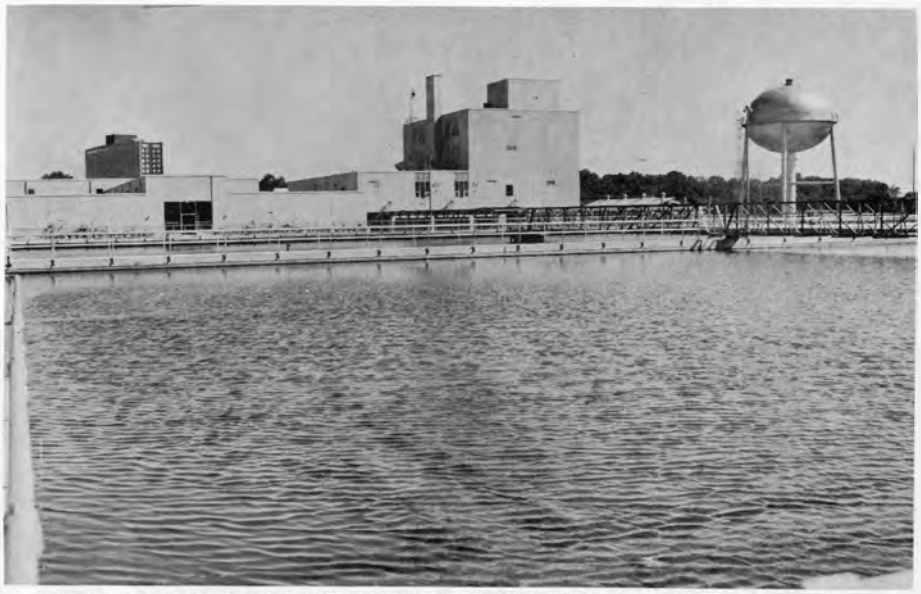
# VALERIE ARMSTRONG MAKES "WHO'S WHO" PUBLICATION

National recognition has come to Miss Valerie Armstrong, administrative analyst in the Commissioner's Office.

Miss Armstrong, a management specialist for 23 years, has been included in "Who's Who of American Women" (1965), to be published by Marquis-Who's Who, Inc., Chicago, Ill. The publication, which includes the names of hundreds of successful American women, has national standing.

A naturalized American (born in Canada), Miss Armstrong has worked for the City since 1957. From 1941 to that date, she served in various management capacities with Sears Roebuck and Company, Chicago; Philadelphia Electric Company, Seaboard Finance Company, R.C.A. Quality Control Laboratory, and Franklin Institute, Philadelphia. During World War II, she was assistant manager of the Leave Center for Service Women in Ottawa and St. Johns, Canada.

Miss Armstrong attended Purdue University, 1937-39; Northwestern University, 1940; University of Chicago, 1942-43; and in recent years the Fels Institute, University of Pennsylvania. She specialized in industrial management. She is active in nine professional societies and clubs.



**NEW BELMONT WATER TREATMENT PLANT is rapidly approaching its spring, 1965, completion date. Several new facilities—north basins, wash water tank, chemical building, and north wing of filter building—glisten above.**

# PROMOTE THIRTY EMPLOYEES NAME EIGHT NEW SUPERVISORS

Thirty Water Department employees have won promotions since May. Among these is John J. Craney, of Customer Service, who has been named a field representative supervisor.

Mr. Craney, one of the department's younger employees, has moved up rapidly since he entered the department as a clerk in 1955. He subsequently became a field inspector and field representative, handling numerous customer problems daily. He lives at 5915 Andale Street.

A number of other employees have also made the supervisory ranks, or moved higher in them.

Water Distribution has three new supervisors—Robert Willard, George F. Harvey, and Samuel Consalvo. The first two moved up from foreman, while Mr. Consalvo was an assistant supervisor. Morris M. Pirolli, an equipment operator for Distribution, has jumped to foreman, while Frank Janits, a repairman, has become an emergency foreman.

Four Sewer Maintenance employees have become foremen I. They are Charles L. Slaughter, a sewage interceptor serviceman; Raymond Ruffin, a laborer; Romeo Del Viscio, a brick mason; and George N. Rice, a laborer.

In the Design Branch, Stanley J. Carroll was promoted from civil engineer I to II.

### Other Promotions

*Construction:* Duncan B. Hubley, from graduate engineer to civil engineed I; and John L. Finley, from clerk I to engineering aide I.

*Design:* Maurice S. Cameron and Robert S. Luciani, from graduate engineer to mechanical engineer I.

*Meter Shop:* Charles M. Russo, from emergency repairman to plumber; Huett W. Johnson and Walter S. Holloway, from semiskilled laborer to water meter repairman I.

*Distribution:* Charles D. C. Gay, from repairman to emergency repairman; Edward Whitted, from equipment operator I to heavy equipment operator I; and William Cook, from repairman helper to repairman.

*Sewer Maintenance:* Wilbert Taylor, from automotive driver to equipment operator I; and George Polite, from maintenance mechanic I to brick mason.

*Torresdale Water Plant:* Martin Killen, from laboratory technician to chemist I; and Charles P. Lewis, Sr., from mechanic helper to filter plant operator I.

*Northeast Sewage Works:* James Hamm, from stockhandler to plant helper I; and David M. Pestcoe, from laboratory technician to chemist I.

*Others:* Gwendolyn J. Spicer, from clerk-stenographer I to II at the Materials Testing Laboratory; Charles McDonough, from meter and gauge mechanic I to II at the Belmont Water Treatment Plant; and George Bryant, from field inspector I to field representative in the Customer Service Section.

GWENDOLYN J. SPICER

*All the finest things we have today were discovered, fashioned or conceived by those who kept constantly in sight of the motto "I may be wrong."*

## MARINE DIVISION SEEKS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS

The Second Marine Division Association is offering scholarships to children of deceased members of the division, Louis Benoff, of Water Department Design, has announced.

Young men and women may submit applications at any time. The applications will be evaluated on the basis of need, motivation, school grades, etc. For further information, contact Mr. Benoff after 6:00 p.m. at PI 2-6252.

# LOUIS B. SKLAR BECAME ENGINEER THE HARD WAY

Among employees retiring from the Water Department in 1964 was Louis B. Sklar, an electrical engineer in the Design Branch.

An employee of the Water Department for 11½ years, Lou made good the hard way. He came to the United States from his native Russia in 1913 at the age of 16. His ambition was to study engineering, but to enter college he had to pass examinations in English grammar and literature. This he did in one year through hard study.

World War I, however, cut off funds from his father, and Lou had to go to work. By 1918 he had saved enough money to enter Drexel Institute of Technology and he graduated in 1923 with a B.S. degree in electrical enginering.

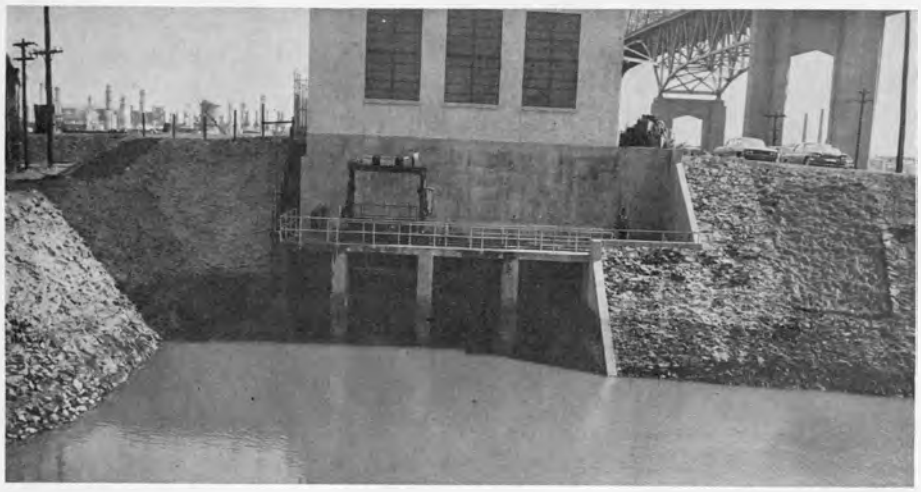
In succeeding years, Lou held various engineering jobs with U.G.I. Contracting Company, Philadelphia Electric Company, the old Department of City Transit, the Ballinger Company, and Charles E. Leopold.

Notable was his work as head of a squad of 18 engineers and draftsmen who did the electrical design for the new Pentagon Building in Washington. This job was done in less than a year.

Lou also was responsible for design of the control and electrical equipment for the first natural gas system on the eastern seaboard. This was installed at Chester.

A writer of various papers on electrical, electronic and radio subjects, Lou invented an exponential slide rule and negative logarithms. For his slide rule and logarithms he received many complimentary letters from American and European scientists and engineers.

LOUIS B. SKLAR



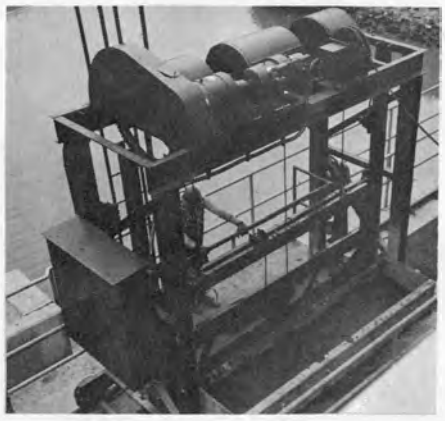
## BIG STORM STATION TO GO INTO SERVICE

The city's biggest storm water pumping station will go into service in the near future.

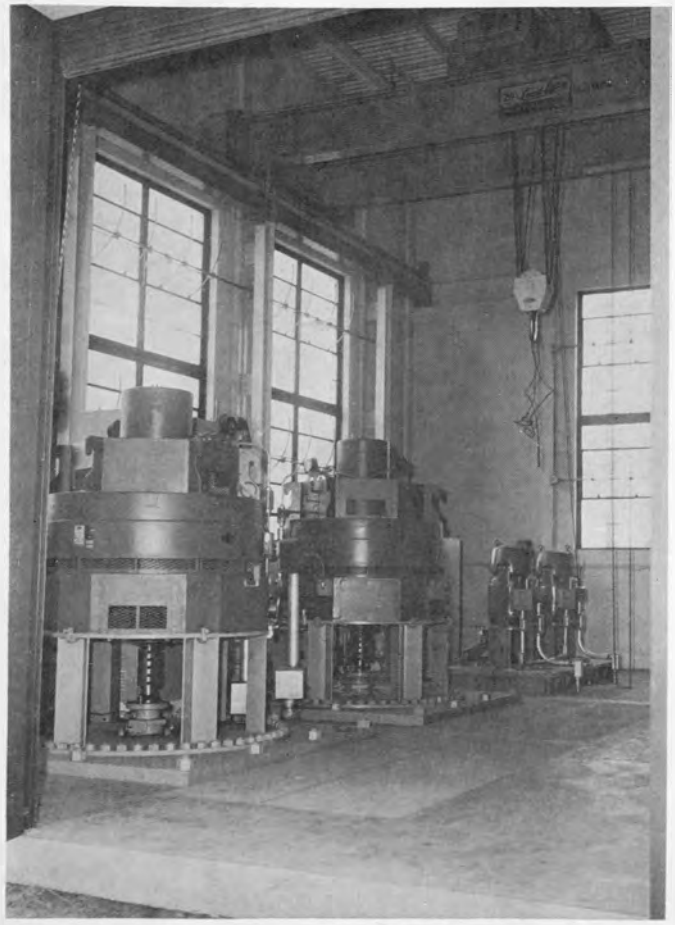
The $965,000 station, which has just been completed on the east bank of the Schuylkill River near the Penrose Avenue Bridge, will have an initial pumping capacity of 123,000 gallons of storm water per minute. Eventually this capacity will be raised to 235,000 G.P.M.

The new station, which replaces an old 60,000 G.P.M. station, will lift storm water 10 feet from Mingo Creek into the Schuylkill River. It will assure future control of storm flooding in the growing International Airport and Eastwick areas. Automatic in operation, the station will require no regular personnel. (See photos on this page)

**STORM WATER entering the new Mingo Creek Pumping Station (above) will have debris removed by trash rake and gantry (right), after which powerful pumps (below) will lift the water 10 feet from the creek to the Schuylkill River. At right below, Fred Crenshaw and Samuel Schwartz inspect manual motor controls, used when station's automatic controls fail.**



*Everyone can give pleasure in some way. One person may do it by coming into a room, and another by going out.*



# DEPARTMENT HIRES 45 NEW EMPLOYEES

Forty-five new employees have entered the Water Department since the beginning of May. The new employees have been assigned to units throughout the department.

The new employees include:

*General Administration:* Gerald M. Maier, management trainee; Elaine Smith, clerk I; Joseph R. Quigley, tabulating equipment operator II; Hermein C. Hollomon, clerk-typist I; Catherine Callahan, keypunch operator II.

*Torresdale Water Plant:* Francis J. Jackson, chemist I; Alan M. Lubell, graduate engineer; Thomas B. Crawford, laborer; Charles E. Jackson, Jr., mechanic helper.

*Sewer Maintenance:* John Kunf, Leonard A. Kerper, John L. Garofalo, Michael J. Bowdren, and Jesse Bowden, brick masons.

*Construction:* John R. Smirga and Frank A. Ferrara, graduate engineers.

*Planning Unit:* John J. Dee, Jr., civil engineer I, and Richard M. Brinkos, graduate engineer.

*Load Control:* Robert Young, electronic technician I; and Richard P. Thompson, graduate engineer.

*Design:* Peter R. Frey and Eugene J. Payne, civil engineers III; James M. Dougherty and Joseph L. Rola, graduate engineers.

*Northeast Sewage Works:* Edward J. Carroll, Brunson Alonzo, and John Young, laborers.

*Industrial Wastes:* Robert P. Allison and John S. Witucki, graduate engineers.

*Meter Shop:* Marie J. Larkin, clerk-stenographer I; Albert O. Koch, Sr., Louis R. Iannucci, and John A. Rafa, water meter repairmen I.

*Customer Service:* Harry C. Schorpp, field inspector I; Gloria Riley and Marvin S. Chase, clerk-typists II; Anthony J. Caine, clerk II.

*Southwest Sewage Works:* William E. Lodge, graduate engineer; Morris Stepteau, laborer.

*Others:* Tracy C. Inman, brick mason, Building Maintenance; Lambert Harris, repairman helper, Water Distribution; Alexander Lapteff, graduate engineer, Queen Lane Water Plant; Augusto M. Ferrara, maintenance mechanic II, Delaware Pumping; Stephen J. Ballay, graduate engineer, Engineering Bureau Office; and Edward McGuire, graduate engineer, Research and Development.

**PROMOTED to mechanical engineer I were new graduate engineers (l. to r.) Robert Luciani, Murray Cowan, and Maurice Stewart Cameron.**

## NEW GRADUATE ENGINEERS

*Top college talent has swelled the engineering ranks of the Water Department in the past year.*

*As the result of recruitment campaigns that covered many Eastern and Midwestern colleges, nine graduate engineers were hired last year and 17 this year. The new engineers were needed to fill vacancies vital to the future of the water and sewerage systems.*

*The new grads have been assigned to various units. Several have already won promotion.*

*Photographs show some of new engineers during a recent visit to the Design Branch.*

**NEW GRADUATE ENGINEERS get pointers from Design supervisors during visit. Above, Christopher Lidle (center) explains to (l. to r.) Frank A. Ferrara, John Smirga, Stephen J. Ballay, Edward McGuire, Robert P. Allison, and John S. Witucki, while below, Joseph Mair (right) goes over plans with (l. to r.) Richard M. Brinkos, Thomas Hickey, Joseph L. Rola, and James M. Dougherty.**


**"I understand that you have no objections to the graveyard shift."**

# ENGINEER CLARENCE G. WALTON RETIRES - HE IS ONE OF SEVENTEEN NEW PENSIONERS

Seventeen employees, representing a dozen different occupations, retired during the first nine months of this year.

Among these veterans was Clarence G. Walton, 69, an electrical engineer in the department's Construction Branch. An electrical engineering graduate of the Drexel Institute of Technology (1924), Mr. Walton joined the old Water Bureau in 1941. Well thought of for his ability, he worked in recent years on the installation of "load control" equipment in water pumping stations.

During his early years, Mr. Walton worked for the General Electric Company and the old Department of City Transit. In 1939-41 he designed and supervised the construction of electrical equipment for Westinghouse.

Mr. Walton, who retired August 7, lives at 9951 Hardy Road.

Retiring August 30 was Louis Hendler, 69, a sanitary engineer in Industrial Wastes. Before entering the Water Department in 1953, Mr. Hendler had a long career in private industry. He was production superintendent for three plants of the Logansport Distilling Company (1941-48) and assistant plant manager for the Champion Container Company (1948-51). He was a consulting chemist from 1951 to 1953. Mr. Hendler took his B.S. in chemistry from Pennsylvania State University in 1914.

### Other Retirements

Philip Jacobs, 67, engineering aide, Projects Control, January 27; Edward Masterson, 66, custodial worker, Delaware Pumping, January 3; Joseph Watson, 65, clerk, Torresdale Water Plant, January 23; Fred Junker, 63, pumping station operator, Queen Lane Pumping Station, February 25.

William Schiavo, 62, engineer, Fairhill High Pressure Pumping Station, February 25; Steve Lorenti, 66, pumping station operator, Delaware Pumping, April 23; Frank McIntosh, 61, laboratory helper, Water Quality Control, April 2; Pasquale Proscino, 70, brick mason, Sewer Maintenance, May 28; Nathan Worthington, filter plant operator, Torresdale Water Plant, May 10.

James Smith, 63, public works inspector, Construction, June 3; David Berne, 66, plumber, Meter Shop, June 11; Robert Johnson, 63, pumping station operator, Schuylkill Pumping, June 18; Macer Jones, 67, mechanic helper, Torresdale Water Plant, June 22; Francis O'Shea, 58, equipment operator, Sewer Maintenance, August 21; Frank Tiano, meter and gauge mechanic, Torresdale Water Plant, August 3.

**WILLIAM SCHIAVO**
**Retires**

## *EMPLOYEES GIVE $28,275 TO UNITED FUND CAMPAIGN*

Although the Water Department did not win torchlighter status, gifts from its employees broke all previous department records during the recent United Fund campaign. Employees gave $28,275, or an average of $20 each.

With 92% of personnel giving, the department fell nearly $2,200 short of its $30,466 goal. In most units, more than 90% of employees contributed.

Average individual employee gifts were highest in the following units: Offices of Commissioner and Administrative Services Director; Queen Lane Filter Plant Maintenance Force; Materials Testing Laboratory; and the Engineering Office (Administration, Research and Development, and W. and S. S. Planning). Average employee gifts in these units ranged from $32.35 to $71.67.

Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter has sent letters of commendation to units which performed well.

*Two things in life I've had and ample: Good advice and bad example.*

# OFFICE SECRETARY TEACHES RETARDED CHILDREN TO SWIM

Rosemary Rosenthal, secretary to Assistant Chief Engineer John Briggs, has turned a life long hobby into a community service.

When Rosemary was in her teens, she was short distance swimming champion of the Middle Atlantic A.A.U. Swimming became her hobby from then on.

Last year, Rosemary's younger daughter moved to the South to be with her husband who had obtained a job there. Rosemary, always close to her children, felt "completely lost," as she put it, on weekends.

"I knew swimming would be my best tranquilizer," explained Rosemary, "but as of now there are no indoor pools in the Northeast. Reading a Sunday paper two days after they moved, an article struck my eye and I followed through on it."

The article, Rosemary noted, stated that the Philadelphia Association for Retarded Children needed Sunday morning volunteers to teach retarded children how to swim. "They wanted persons who like children and were good swimmers," said Rosemary. "I knew this would solve my problem; so I applied and was accepted. I have been doing this very rewarding work for the past year."

**ROSEMARY ROSENTHAL**

The swimming, Rosemary pointed out, releases pent up emotions in the children and relaxes them. "They actually do learn to swim and dive, and lots of times we have trouble getting them out of the pool."

## *Theatre In Review*

**By Paul Siegel**

*(Recent Philadelphia plays now in New York)*

**Catch Me If You Can**

Playhouse in the Park concluded its summer season with a very propitious presentation of a bright new comedy mystery adapted from a French play by Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert of "How to Succeed in Business" fame. The result of this collaboration is one of the best achievements in both the comedy and mystery categories that *this viewer* has seen in quite some time.

The scene opens on a honeymoon cottage in the Catskills where an overwrought bridegroom is found minus his bride, who mysteriously disappeared. Suddenly a "man of the cloth" appears with a woman who purports to be the missing bride and those concerned refuse to believe the husband's expostulations about the woman being an imposter with a deadly motive.

An expert cast finds Robert Burr as the husband and Julia Meade as the bogus bride creating an aura of intrigue and mystery while Tom Bosley and Eli Mintz as a detective and proprietor of a delicatessen, respectively, correlate the comedy elements with unfaltering pace.

# NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL HONORS 213 EMPLOYEES FOR SAFE DRIVING

### SAFETY GROUP HEARS CAPPIO

John T. Cappio, safety officer, addressed the 52nd National Safety Congress and Exposition in Chicago on October 29. Mr. Cappio spoke on "Record Keeping and Accident Investigation."

In safety engineering for 21 years, Mr. Cappio has been active in the American Society of Safety Engineers for most of that time. He is a member of that society's board of trustees and serves on various society committees.

### *"ITS THE DRIVER!"*

*It isn't the vehicle that begins to whine*
*When forced to stop for an old stop sign—*
*It's the driver.*
*It isn't the vehicle that takes a drink,*
*Then quickly loses its power to think—*
*It's the driver.*
*It isn't the vehicle that steps on the gas*
*And causes an accident, trying to pass—*
*It's the driver.*
*A vehicle may be bent and twisted awry,*
*But is isn't the vehicle that will have to die.*

One way to be safe on the highway may be to have a Water Department driver.

Two hundred thirteen "safe drivers" in the department received National Safety Council Awards this past summer. The awards were made to employees who regularly drove City vehicles without a preventable accident in 1963.

The awards, consisting of certificates, gold lapel pins and key chain fobs, were presented to 17 employee representatives, who accepted them on behalf of themselves and their colleagues, during a brief ceremony at the Commissioner's Office.

Presenting the awards were G. R. Whitney, district director of the National Safety Council, and Harry H. Verdier, executive director of the safety council of the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Philadelphia. John Cappio, safety officer, was master of ceremonies.

Among the award winners were Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter and his deputy, Charles E. Vickerman, who have rolled up more than a half million miles of safe driving of city vehicles.

All told, the 213 winners have nearly 700 years of safe driving among them, since presentation of the awards began seven years ago. Forty-one of them received awards for the seventh consecutive year.

The winners follow:

**Seven-Year Awards**

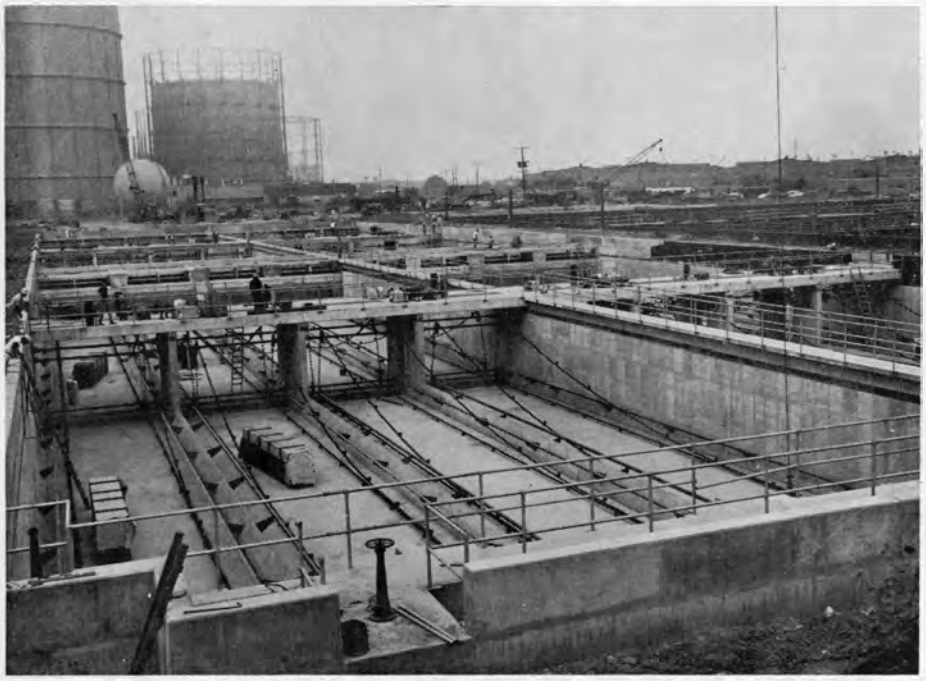
Samuel S. Baxter, Elwood L. Bean, Theodore C. Blessman, Richard Boggs, Edward S. Broccola, Harry Canty, Edward Clayburne, Donald J. Crawford, Charles J. Doerr, Robert Eastwood, Frank Federico, Theodore Fitzhugh, Jr., Hugo Gallizia, Gerald Graham, Frank Guarino, John Harley, William T. Heller, Jr., Francis S. Helverson, Vincent Hughes, William J. Hylan.

Leon Jones, Kendall J. Lawson, Harry Lopata, Joseph C. Loughran, Jerry Manzo, Harold Meyerson, John J. Monaghan, Charles Muelhoff, Victor A. Pagnotto, Morris F. Pirolli, Joseph M. Reichman, George W. Scott, Thomas J. Smith, Richard Supplee, William Thompson, Russell Thomas, Robert Troyano, Albert Tyman, Charles E. Vickerman, Robert Waters, Edward Weber.

**Six-Year Awards**

Morris Abramowitz, Jacob Balk, Abraham Barmish, William Barnes, William Biles, James P. Brady, Jr., Warren Bush, Milton L. Cheatham, Peter D'Amelio, Edwin F. Davies, Benjamin F. Day, Francis DeGasto, Thomas F. Diodata, Robert Easley, Michael Elia, Nadine Eskridge.

(Continued on Page 9)



**NEW SETTLING TANKS at the Northeast Sewage Treatment Works have chains and collectors installed before going into service. The tanks form part of a $5.3 million expansion—now virtually complete—which has raised plant expansion from 125 million gallons of sewage daily to 175 M.G.D.**

# JOHN LA ROSA WINS DEGREE WITH HONORS AT LA SALLE

In this issue we take our hats off to John LaRosa, a supervisor in our General Accounting Section. John received his bachelor's degree from LaSalle College last June.

Taking a degree may not seem unusual, but in John's case there is a difference. He—

1. Started college eleven years ago,
2. Graduated 19th in a class of 164,
3. Was on the Dean's Honor List for three years—a remarkable accomplishment for a night school student.
4. Worked through all these years to support himself and his family,
5. Has now enrolled at the Fels Institute, University of Pennsylvania, to obtain a master's degree in government administration.

Just getting to college was a long and circuitous route for John. Leaving Frankford High School in the 10th grade, John spent four years in the Air Force—mostly as a medical and surgical technician. He also spent one year as the medical technician on an air evacuation plane of our military air transport.

After being honorably discharged from the service in 1951, he became a pharmaceutical tablet maker—but his heart was set on "numbers" and so he returned to school. In 1953 he acquired his State high school equivalency diploma and enrolled at LaSalle College, where in 1957 he received a certificate of proficiency in accounting. John attended college at night and worked during the day as an accountant at Jeanes Hospital and later as staff accountant for the controller at the Jefferson Medical College.

John started with the City in 1957 in the Finance Department, and transferred to Collections, with a promotion, in 1960. He came to the Water Department in 1962—all the time still attending night school. On June 9 of this year, he got his bachelor's degree.

JOHN LaROSA

John lives in the far Northeast with his wife Jean and son John, nine years old. When he got his degree from LaSalle, his wife also received her degree, P.H.T. (Putting Hubby Through). Son John is a Cub Scout and Jean is a den mother—so Pappa John helps out by assisting with arts and crafts, taking the boys on hikes, etc. But John is interested in sports—especially in our Phillies and the Eagles, so it is more or less a labor of love. All we can do is wish John continued success in school and in his "numbers" job.

ROSEMARY ROSENTHAL

## SAFETY AWARDS

(Continued from Page 8)

Julius Fuller, Edward Goebel, Elmer Goebel, John W. Lewis, John Maffett, Oscar Perkins, Richard D. Pinder, William A. Popp, Robert Riebel, Hillard Rogers, John H. Sassman, Harry Schmitt, Angelo Sticco, Joseph A. Thompson, Fred R. Twers, William N. Washington.

### Five-Year Awards

William Abel, Thomas Beaudet, Robert Bradstock, Edward Costello, Samuel R. Costello, Dewey M. Crawford, Tracy Dukes, John Enders, Eugene Henderson, Anthony Lombo, A. Thomas Mallis, Charles J. McKeever, James F. Muller, Francis O'Shea, William Powers, Alexander Romano, Louis Savini, Leonard Silverstein, Charles Slaughter, Robert Sullivan, Edward J. Sweeney (deceased), Arnold J. Udstuen, Gustave Weaver, Robert Willard, Jr., James A. Young, Kenneth Zitomer.

### Four-Year Awards

Ralph Bruno, Michael Caggiano, Alfred Cardano, Donato Caruso, Richard Connelly, John A. Dillener, Joseph A. Farrell, Jr., Ernest Ferrero, Henry T. Fields, Robert C. Harris, Jr., Wendell Jeffery, Francis J. Malone, Frank Masino, William Mathis, Fred Plegge, James Price, William Shelton, Charles Tongue, Angelo Torri, William Traynor, Anthony Vallone.

### Three-Year Awards

William Baucom, Norman Bell, William Brown, Sylvester Campbell, Lander Coleman, John Craney, Earl Crenshaw, Fred Crenshaw, Stanley Cywinski, Max Dixon, Emmitt Dunnigan, George Gilbert, Benjamin Goins, Albert Hart, Peter Holmes, James Hughey, Stanley Kaboskie, Curtis Lee, Vincent Puccio, John Rhines, Louis Rota, Ernest Smith, William Snyder, Steven Supp.

### Two-Year Awards

Clarence Alston, George Booker, Ellis D. Borden, Robert Buchanon, Hubert J. DiGiacomo, Joseph J. Dougherty, Edward F. Ebba, Henry Forrest, Cornelius Green, Ralph A. Hoot, Henry J. Horne, Frank Janits, Ralph Jaquinto, Fred Lieber, Elwood Brocke.

Robert Lignelli, Peter J. McGuire, George Miller, Stanley, Missimer, Charles I. Pierce, Raymond H. Royds, Edward J. Shervin, William J. Smith, John Tancredi, Wilbert Taylor, William M. Thompson, Stephen Williams, Jr., Walter Yoka, Stanley Zagnojny.

### One-Year Awards

Samuel Adams, George Carpenter, Thomas L. Casalnova, Harold Dando, Samuel Davis, George Devlin, George Eisenhauer, Cole Eubanks, Joseph Falotico, Arthur Glover, Thomas Guerrant, Willis E. Hackett, Frank Harris, George Harvey, Richard A. Hopkins, Eugene Jhinis, James M. Johnson, Harry Lesser, Joseph J. McCafferty, Raymond Martin.

Joseph Meiers, Joseph Mooring, Hilton Nelson, Bruce Olexa, Charles Pards, Anthony J. Rivelli, Murray Roane, Joseph Roch, Michael Romeo, John Schoolfield, Nathan Simmons, Henry Simms, Robert Underwood, Mercer Washington, David P. Williams, Earl Witts, Donald Webster (deceased), Carl Wynn, Raymond Zelinskie.

## FACTS ABOUT SEAT BELTS

1. Two-thirds of the drivers involved in fatal accidents live within 25 miles of the crash. Even a short trip to the grocery store can be dangerous. *Wear seat belts whenever and wherever you go.*
2. Actual crash condition tests prove your chances of being killed are five times greater if you are thrown out of your car.
3. "The seat belt, properly used, pulls down and back across the pelvis and hips, not across the abdomen. Even a woman in the last months of pregnancy may safely wear them."
   *American Medical Association Journal.*
4. A seat belt meeting acceptable standards can be purchased for as little as $4.95 . . . about the cost of a steak dinner. *What is your life worth?*

# NEW BOOKLET WINS PLAUDITS OF INDUSTRY FOR STORY OF "ABUNDANT WATER SUPPLY"

"The story of the abundant, inexpensive water supply which sustains Philadelphia industry" is being told in a handsome, 16-page brochure, published by the Water Department.

The two-color, illustrated booklet was released last May for the Greater Philadelphia Industrial Trade Fair. Since then, 10,000 copies have been distributed—most of them to local industries and business firms—and the great interest has led to a new printing.

"In Philadelphia, industry has plenty of good water," states the booklet, noting that industries use enormous quantities of water and that the industrial need for water is growing in all parts of the country, sometimes in the face of water shortages.

The booklet tells how the Water Department's $482 million modernization program has helped to create water abundance by cleaning up the local streams, providing new water system facilities, and ensuring better control of water quality. It also stresses Philadelphia's reasonable water rates for industry.

Entitled "Philadelphia, City of Abundant Water," the brochure has won enthusiasm from local business and community leaders, who feel that it will help to encourage some industries to locate or stay in Philadelphia.

#### Comments

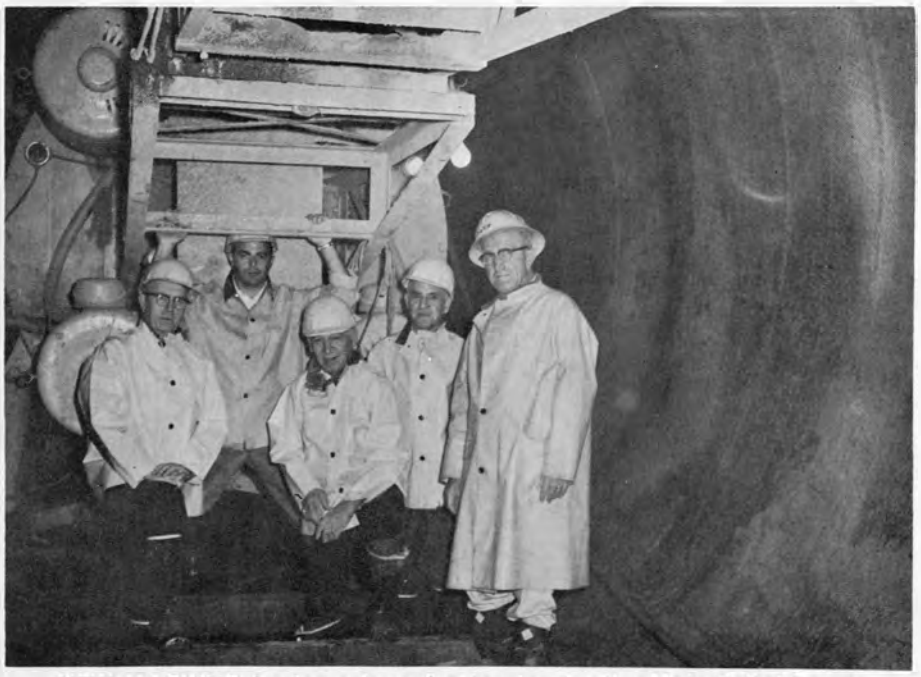
Writes Richard J. McConnell, executive director of the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation, "It is one of the finest pieces of promotional literature that I have seen." (He asks for 200 copies for industrial prospects, etc.)

Writes former Mayor Richardson Dilworth, "Congratulations on the really fine brochure."

From John J. Herd, executive vice president Albert M. Greenfield and Company, "Please accept my congratulations on a most attractive and interesting brochure . . . This information is complete and impressive and has a most practical application in assisting us in presenting Philadelphia as the logical place for new or expanding industry."

Writes Bernard Sabreen, chief engineer of Publicker Industries, Inc., "I was impressed with the entire presentation."

From John H. Dempster, president of Quaker City Federal Savings and Loan Association, "I was quite impressed . . . The brochure is a most beautiful presentation of facts and figures and Philadelphians should be most proud of the job being done by their Water Department."



**NEW MACHINE, boring a tunnel extension for the Main Relief Sewer, is inspected 60 feet below ground by department engineers. The machine bores through solid rock, without need for dynamiting. L. to r., Vincent Hughes, Ronald Marra (contractor's employee), Abraham Finkelstein, Samuel Kolbhoff, and Peter Wortman.**

# *Strictly Personal*

#### Torresdale Water Plant

Belated congratulations to Edward Hochmuth, who was promoted to foreman of heating and equipment maintenance early this year.

Torresdale extends a hearty welcome to Judy Jamison and Dolores Malkus, clerk-typists I; Jean Rozier, clerk II; Emilio Nunez, undergraduate engineer; Charles Jackson, mechanic helper; Frank Jackson, chemist I; and Thomas Cantiello, custodial worker I.

Loads of luck to Henry Brown, laborer, and his wife, who gave birth to twins. The Browns now have nine children.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cirelli on the marriage of their son, Airman 1/C Samuel Cirelli, Jr., to Carol Wildsmith. The marriage took place August 25 at Little Rock, Ark., Air Force Base.

#### Delaware Pumping

Mattie, wife of Eugene Holloway, mechanic helper, gave birth to a 9 lb. - 3 oz. boy last April—the eighth child for the Holloways.

We extend a big welcome to Edward Armster, custodial worker, who transferred to Delaware Pumping Division.

George Baharian, maintenance mechanic I, is the proud father of a baby girl, born July 9. The child, Barbara Anne, is the third for the Baharians.

We are pleased to welcome "Gus" Ferrara, maintenance mechanic II, a new employee; and Frank Venere, clerk I, who transferred from Customer Service.

We wish the best of luck to Louis Solomon, clerk I. Mr. Solomon found it necessary to resign from City service because of health.

#### W & SS Planning Unit

On March 31, Pat Celenza, civil engineer II, and his wife became the proud parents of their first child. Elizabeth Ann.

Edward Braudy, Supervisor of the Sewer Planning Unit, is to be congratulated on the marriage of his son Leo, on August 27 to Susan Orr. Leo is working for his doctorate at Yale U., where he received a fellowship in English literature and his wife is also at Yale working for her Master's in Psychology. Susan is the daughter of Bernard Orr, the personnel director at the Philadelphia Housing Authority for 20 years.

#### Commissioner's Office

Rosemary Rosenthal, secretary to Assistant Chief Engineer John Briggs, welcomed her first granddaughter (and third grandchild), Sherry Robin, born to her daughter, August 11.

Her many friends will be happy to know that Joan Rementer, former secretary to retired Deputy Commissioner Max Barofsky, will be married in January to a serviceman overseas and she will spend the first year of her marriage in Germany.

#### Schuylkill Pumping

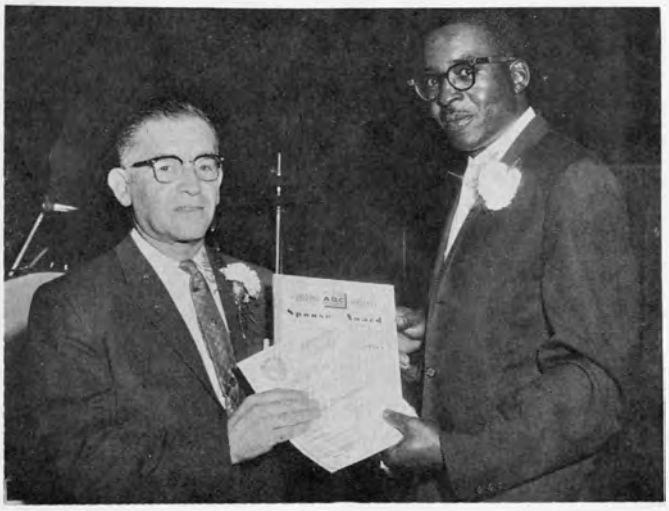
Congratulations to Joseph Fanelli, II, electrician, upon the marriage of his son, Joseph, III, on August 29.

#### Projects Control

Congratulations are in order for Ruben Comer, contract information clerk, on the engagement of his daughter Arlene in September. Arlene is a Temple U. student and upon graduation in 1966 will become a teacher of business education. Her fiance' is a graduate of Temple also, now entering the law school, and they expect to marry the end of December, 1965.

(Continued on Page 11)

# BOWLERS CARRY OFF TROPHIES



**END-OF-SEASON AWARDS were abundant when Water Department bowlers assembled for their annual dinner. Above left, Erwin Baskin, president of the Employees' Recreation Association, which sponsors the bowling league, collects sponsor awards from Richard Wiggins, league president, while, above right, Wiggins and Goldie Jenkins receive their "high singles" trophies from Mr. Forster, manager of the Glenwood Avenue bowling alley.**

**FIRST PLACE TEAM, above, gets well earned bowling trophies from Erwin Baskin, while Valerie Armstrong remembers runners-up below. Above, l. to r., B. Bazemore, F. Bland, C. Header, Baskin, C. Scott, S. Wilks, and E. Peay. Below, l. to r., L. Dusan, V. Armstrong, G. Booker, and V. Parker.**

## *Strictly Personal*

(Continued from Page 10)

**Construction**

Summer vacations took Construction personnel as far as Maine and Florida. Two of our engineers, however, did the fatherly thing. They took their sons camping. Julian Richter, committee member of Troop 96 and chairman of Pack 96, joined his son at Camp Hart. Ernie Ferrero went him one better, taking not only his son to camp but his entire Scout Troop 505, of which he is Scout Master.

## Deaths

EDWARD J. SWEENEY: Died April 24. Mr. Sweeney was chief of the Schuylkill Pumping Division, a position to which he was appointed in 1959. Entering the department in 1941, he served successively as pumping station engineer and assistant pumping chief. Mr. Sweeney was highly respected for his ability and fairness as a supervisor. He was 60 years old.

LEROY CAMPBELL: Died July 19, after 18 years with the City. He was a chemist I at the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant.

EDWARD MASTERSON: Mr. Masterson was in retirement at the time of his death, having been pensioned last January 3. He had been employed as a custodial worker at the Lardner's Point Pumping Station.

## JOIN IN CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Christmas carols will rise from City Hall courtyard again this year as City employees sing for Christmas shoppers.

The Water Department will field its carolers on Wednesday, December 23, at high noon. It is hoped that as many employees as possible (particularly from Annex and Penn Square building offices) will participate.

There is a special need for good soloists, duos, trios, or other musical combinations. If you qualify, please contact Samuel Schwartz, assistant to the Commissioner, ext. 3802.

NEWS FRONT

"It's really not too hard. Once you get the hang of it, you'll *enjoy* using periods."

# LETTER FROM MANILA

**Gerald E. Arnold**

**Former Deputy Commissioner**

I have had two interesting experiences this week which I should tell you about. One was a trip to Pagsanjan Falls, the other was a trip to Corregidor.

Last Sunday I went with two men from the World Bank to Pagsanjan Falls, one of the beauty spots in the Philippines. The falls are on a river of the same name about 105 kilometers southeast of Manila.

The road is good most of the way, the rest passable, thru a rich agricultural area and some jungle that reminded me of Honduras. At the river we changed to bathing suits and hired three boats to take us up to the falls.

### Travel in Dugouts

The boats are dug out logs, narrow and tippy, manned by two men who paddle, swim, push and even carry the boats over the rapids. There are 16 rapids approaching the falls which are slow going up but fast coming down. The river flows thru a deep gorge off sheer cliffs or tropical jungle. The falls are nice but the real beauty is the river gorge. The spray from the falls got us wet but the most wetting came from shooting the rapids coming down when the dug outs almost filled with water washed over the sides. It is a thrilling trip.

Last Wednesday the Bank people were given an official trip to Corregidor and I was invited to go along. We were taken out on one of the ships of the Philippine Navy and given a tour by the army over the island. Corregidor is about 30 miles west of Manila at the entrance to Manila Bay. It covers four square miles, rising to a height of 500 feet. It was on this island that 23,000 military and 2,000 civilians held out against the Japs for five months in 1942.

The island was fortified by the Americans in the 1930's and a series of tunnels were dug into the rock. After the fall of Manila the army fought its way around the north side of Manila Bay and south of the tip of Bataan Peninsula, then retreated to Corregidor where they were under constant bombing and shelling by the Japs. They lived in the tunnels and suffered all sorts of privations.

### Corregidor Tunnels

The tunnels were assigned to different groups, one was MacArthur's headquarters, another for President Quezon of the Philippines and his people, another was a hospital as there were many wounded and sick. I was deeply moved as I stood in the silence and thought of the history that was made here 22 years ago. A sign in the hospital tunnels reads, "Silence, you can hear the moans of the wounded and the whispers of the dead."

We returned to Manila late in the afternoon after a most thrilling day. As I watched one of the gorgeous sunsets we have almost every day over Manila Bay, I thought again of all the history that has been made on this beautiful body of water.

**Editor's Note: Gerald E. Arnold is now consultant and chief deputy to the manager of the Philippine National Water Works and Sewage Authority.**

# NEW RIVER INTAKE

(Continued from Page 1)

roof decking. There will be an array of electrical switchgear, transformers, panelboards, etc. to operate the equipment.

The new intake facilities will replace old and inadequate facilities located at the head of a small inlet along the north dike of the settling basin. The old facilities, consisting of an obsolescent brick building and underwater flap gates, will be demolished. The inlet, which is heavily silted, will be filled up with earth.

### Advantage of New Facilities

The new facilities will have several advantages over the old:

1. The new, water-tight sluice gates will prevent *chlorinated* water in the settling basin from leaking back into the river—a problem that has long plagued the old facilities. Savings in chemical costs should be appreciable.

2. Bar screens and rakes, as well as traveling screens, will provide for regular removal of debris from incoming river water at the new intake. Because such facilities are presently lacking, much manual labor is required to clear the old intake. The changeover will save the City a lot of overtime payments.

3. Because the new intake will be located in the river (instead of inside a small inlet as at present), there will be less ice formation in the winter. For the ice that does form, there will be "pushbutton" operated ice cutters to break it up.

4. Location of the new intake in the river should also help to eliminate another problem. In the past, adverse wind and tidal conditions have sometimes hampered the flow of river water into the small inlet that serves the settling basin. Thus the basin might not receive fresh water for many hours. The new intake will provide a constant supply of water, whatever the wind and tidal conditions.

5. The new facilities will be entirely automatic, requiring minimum personnel and providing for efficient application of chemicals to the incoming water.

Construction of the new intake will require about 20 months, with completion by mid-1966.

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*Angry wife: "What insane notion ever possessed you to buy two elephants?"*

*Inebriated Husband: "The man wouldn't break up the pair!"*

ELWOOD L. BEAN

# OUR WATER ONE OF FINEST BEAN TELLS SANITARY GROUP

Elwood L. Bean, chief of water treatment, described Philadelphia's advanced methods of water quality control to the American Society of Sanitary Engineers on October 5.

In a speech to the engineers at their annual convention in the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Mr. Bean explained the workings of the Water Quality Control and Research Division.

He pointed out that the division maintains good liaison with industries to prevent river pollution, watches the results of water plant treatment, takes daily samples from the distribution system, and carries on much research to improve processes of water treatment, reduce costs, etc.

Mr. Bean said that water quality now maintained at the taps of Philadelphia consumers "is one of the finest."

Mr. Bean also recited some facts of national interest, but unknown to the average consumer. "Water delivered by the water works industry each year," said Mr. Bean, "weighs more than the combined products of all industries. Water is therefore, in point of tonage, the greatest industry in this country."

He noted that Americans in the 1880's used less than 80 gallons of water per capita per day; by 1900 about 100 gallons; by 1930 about 130 gallons; and by 1960 "it was up to 155."

"Some 800 water plants served purified or disinfected water to communities of over 25,000 population in 1960, the total served being 96,000,000, or more than one-half the population of this country."

**PENNSYLVANIA SANITARY WATER BOARD looks over improved Schuylkill River during visit to Philadelphia. In foreground, W. H. Noble, Jr., former director of Fairmount Park, explains a point to board members Dr. Charles L. Wilbar, State Secretary of Health, and Dr. Maurice K. Goddard, Secretary of Forests and Waters, while Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter looks on.**

## *WATER EMPLOYEES GET MOST SCHOOL CERTIFICATES*

Water Department employees completed more courses in the Philadelphia Government Training Institute during the past five years than did the employees of any other City department.

According to a report issued by the City Personnel Department, Water employees have received 182 certificates of course completion. Runners-up were the Health Department with 174 and the Streets Department with 136. Total certificates issued by the institute were 1,483.

Nine more Water Department employees enrolled for the 1964 autumn term of the institute.

The institute is sponsored jointly by the City Government and local colleges.

**CERTIFICATES FOR COURSE completion at Philadelphia Government Training Institute are held by (l. to r.) Virginia Harrison, Irma Logan, Mary Cotten, Carolyn Ogden, Harry Cooper, Albert Raiguel, William Philip, and Hubert DiGiacomo. Certificates, earned last spring, were presented by Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter, right.**

# MATERIALS TESTING PERSONNEL FIND NEW LAB HOME SWEET AND EFFICIENT

Modern is the word for the new quarters of the Materials Testing Laboratory, operated by the Water Department.

Neat, green walls, fluorescent lighting, air circulation, moisture and fume controls, and plenty of space for everything—these are some of the features that make the new Lab a pleasant place in which to work.

Few people are as pleased as the small Laboratory staff (14 in all), who moved into the spacious new quarters at Fairhill High Pressure Pumping Station over the summer.

Left behind was dreary, crowded, unventilated Room 900 on the upper heights of City Hall. Left behind too was an equally dreary room in the City Hall basement.

The Laboratory, reaching back to 1892, had been in Room 900 since 1918.

"In City Hall we could have been mistaken for the last of the alchemists," said William R. Crooks, the department's versatile Laboratory chief, "but our new quarters will put us on a par with the finest commercial laboratories."

Mr. Crooks, who has worked for the Laboratory since 1927, had agreed to be my guide through the new quarters. A man with a string of hobbies—from photography to ham radio to invention of new pieces of equipment for the Lab—Mr. Crooks heads a highly trained staff of chemists and testing engineers.

Noting that the work performance of the Lab has long been equal to that of good private laboratories, Mr. Crooks pointed out that "now we have the space and the physical conditions to do a better job than ever."

**WILLIAM R. CROOKS, lab chief, snaps photograph of metal grain structure for study.**

This job, as Mr. Crooks emphasized, is to save the City money by testing the quality of equipment, construction materials, and other products bought by City departments.

The Laboratory tests thousands of purchases every year. In 1963 it received over 3,800 samples, representing many millions of dollars in City contracts, and it made nearly 39,000 physical and chemical tests on these samples. About one-third of the samples came from the Water Department; one-half from the Department of Streets; and the rest from other City agencies. Much of the testing was done on samples of construction materials.

"We test every sample thoroughly," said Mr. Crooks. "Those samples that don't measure up to specifications are rejected, and of course the City requires the builder or the vendor to make good on his contract."

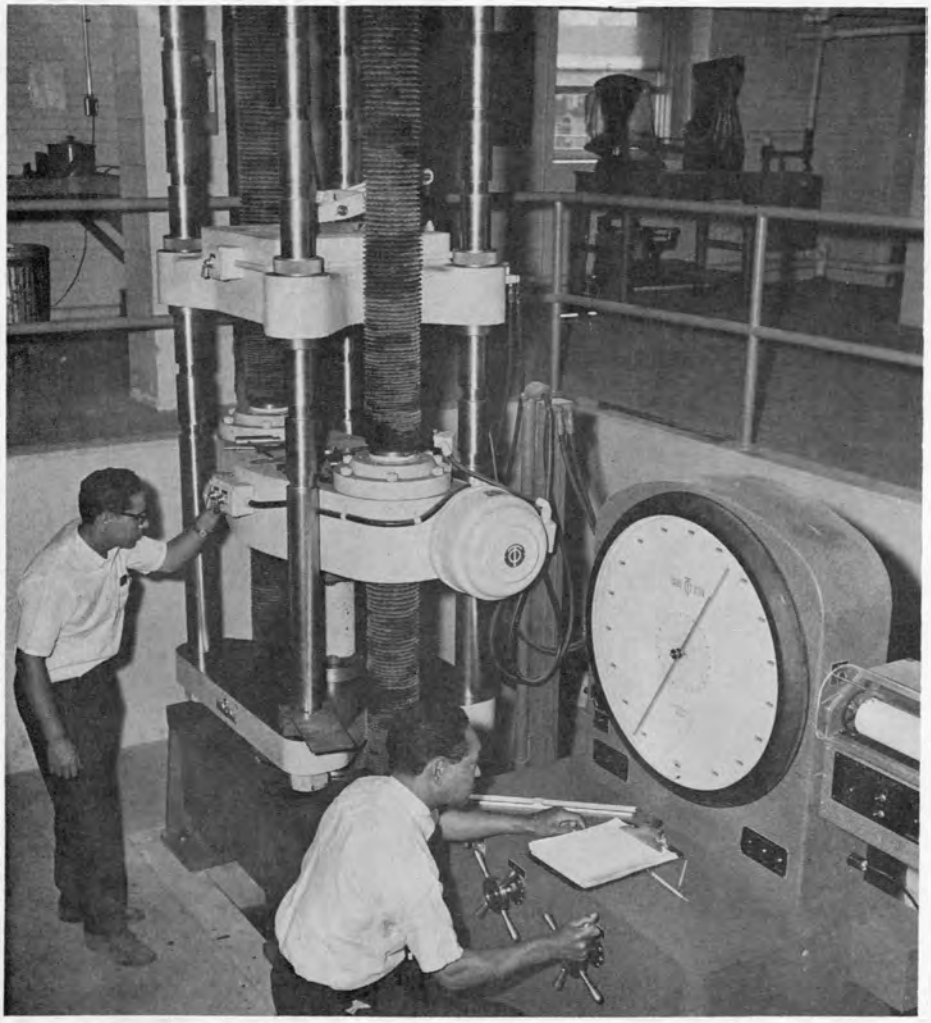
### Laboratory Saves Money

"I imagine you save the City a lot of money," I opined.

"A very substantial amount," replied Mr. Crooks, "but in addition to assurance of quality purchases, the Laboratory does its work for 50% less than what it would cost the City annually if the City sent all samples to commercial laboratories."

As I quickly discovered, the new Laboratory at Fairhill has been built on two floors at the rear of the pumping station. This space was formerly occupied by story-high gas operated pumps. When these were removed to be replaced with small, compact electric pumps in the front of the station,

(Continued on Page 15)



**GIANT COMPRESSION MACHINE tests concrete cylinder at new Materials Testing Laboratory, as Ronald Cushner (left) and Rodman Kennard watch operation. Machine has capacity up to 400,000 lbs.**

# TESTING LAB

(Continued from Page 14)

"We have plenty of space for expansion up here," said Mr. Crooks, "fortunately, because our work is growing." He noted that the new quarters provide over 12,000 square feet of space, compared with 7,400 square feet at City Hall.

The extra space is a godsend, for the volume of Laboratory business is large. Into the Lab flow test samples so varied they sound like a supermarket list: Petroleum products, metals, paints, roofing materials, instruments, coal, sand, cement, paper, wood, ink, food, chemicals, soil, seeds, soaps, insecticides, driers, and many more. The samples flow in by truck to the Lab's unloading platform on the ground floor. "At City Hall we had to tote them up nine floors," recalled Mr. Crooks.

The Lab chief took me on a quick tour of the new quarters, starting with the cheerful, brightly lighted ground floor.

### Test Sample Strength

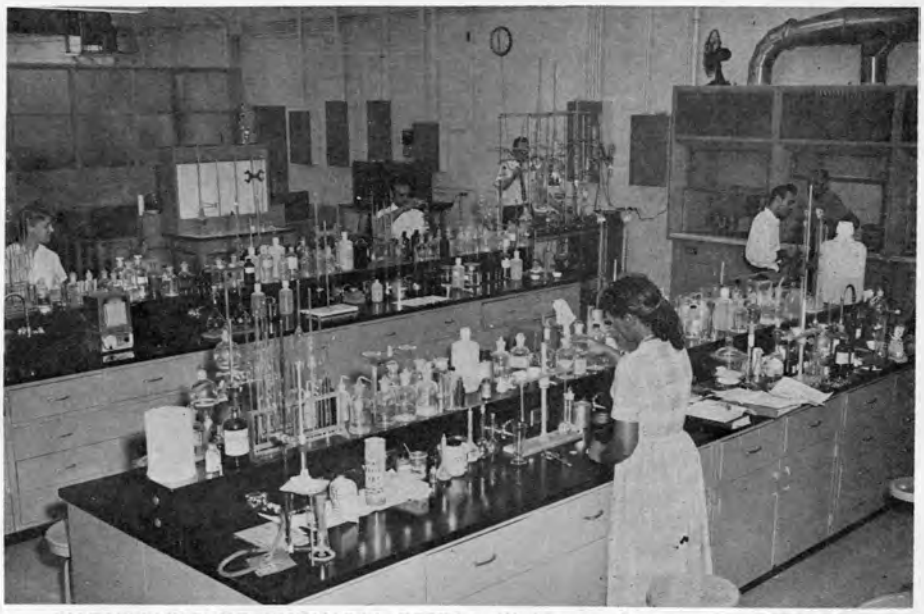
Occupying the ground floor is the physical testing section, filled with a variety of machines. Here samples are compressed, stretched, weighed, ground, tortured, and otherwise pushed to the limit of endurance. Afterwards, many of them receive further tests upstairs in the chemical and physico-chemical testing area.

"This is our newest machine," said Mr. Crooks, indicating a steel giant, set into a deep well in the middle of the concrete floor. "We use it to test the compression strength of concrete and metals. It has a compression capacity up to 400,000 lbs." He noted that the big machine was acquired because industry is producing increasingly stronger concrete and metals.

A Lab assistant descended into the well with a concrete cylinder. The cylinder was inserted between two steel jaws, and then compressed until it silently cried "uncle." The amount of compression was read on a dial as big as a grandfather clock.

"We'll soon be testing concrete for the new Spring Garden Street Bridge," observed Mr. Crooks.

(Continued on Page 16)



**THOUSANDS OF CHEMICAL TESTS will be made yearly in the big chemical testing room of the new laboratory at Fairhill. Fume removal equipment at far right is one of features.**

**ULTRA HIGH SPEED centrifuge for separation of paint elements is checked by Walter Anderson above, while Alexander Patterson stretches piece of rubber in tensile strength machine below.**

**CHEMICALS ARE WEIGHED to the fourth decimal point by these delicate balances operated by (l. to r.) James Wilkerson, Frank Fairman, and Frances Dapkas.**

# TESTING LAB

(Continued from Page 15)

He explained that concrete cylinders are cast by contractors on construction jobs, under the eyes of Water Department inspectors, and the cylinders are sent to the laboratory as samples of the concrete mix being used.

"When they arrive here," said Mr. Crooks, "we keep them moist in a high humidity room. The moisture keeps them from drying out too rapidly." He opened the door of a large room so clouded with water vapor that the numerous concrete cylinders were barely visible. "We wear rain coats inside," he noted.

The physical testing section also boasts a tensile strength machine, a second compression testing machine (160,000 lbs.), a paint vibrator, and other pieces of equipment. On one side of the floor an assistant was busy grinding coal in a machine with a big hopper. After being thoroughly ground, the coal would go upstairs for chemical tests.

We too moved upstairs.

Divided into a dozen offices and sub-laboratories, the second floor proved to be the main center of the Testing Lab's activities. The various special "labs" are separated by partitions of metal and glass that reach only part way to the ceiling, thus allowing the overhead fluorescent lamps and the tall windows to provide a maximum of good lighting.

### Control Fumes

The biggest room is occupied by the chemical testing unit. Two long, black-stone top tables, loaded with tubes and flasks and special apparatus, dominate it. On one side are ovens for heating samples, and an intricate glass tube network for distilling liquids. There are also recessed, glass enclosed hoods, with ducts for carrying off chemical fumes.

"In the old Laboratory, the fumes often drifted back to visit us," commented Mr. Crooks. "Up here, however, we can control fumes, moisture and temperature in a way that was not possible before."

Grouped around the chemical testing room are many smaller rooms, each set aside for some select testing job—special projects, paints, lubricants and fuels, organics, weights, microphotography, etc.

We entered the special projects room, and viewed a dozen measuring and recording devices, studded with switches, flashing lights, and moving graphs. Some of this electronic equipment was shining new, purchased to provide improved testing for the many new products coming on the market each year.

**INFRARED SPECTROPHOTOMETER is one of most useful instruments at new Materials Testing Laboratory. William R. Crooks, lab chief, identifies new plastic material with it by studying wavy line made on the graph.**

One of the new devices—an infrared spectrophotometer — identifies plastics by sending an electric impulse to move an arm that writes an identifying curve on a graph. Tallest instrument is a gas chromatograph that identifies gases given off by heated liquids.

### Photograph Metal Grain

Stepping into a tiny corner room, Mr. Crooks placed a round piece of metal under a combination microscope-camera. Pressing a plunger at the end of a tiny cord, he snapped a photograph. "We photograph valve stems and other metal objects," he explained, "to study their grain structure." Near by were two small buffing machines for smoothing metal surfaces before photographing.

We moved from room to room amid a bewildering array of equipment and chemicals. Of special interest were two centrifuges—one of them resembling an old-type washing machine, the other a new electronic device capable of 20,000 revolutions per minute. Whirling paint at high speed, the centrifuges separate paint into its ingredients. The ingredients are then subjected to chemical tests for quality. "The centrifuges get a lot of use," noted Mr. Crooks, "because of the huge quantities of paint needed by the City."

One of the last stops of the tour was at the neat weighing room. Here employees were weighing samples with delicate, glass enclosed balances. "We weigh samples to the fourth decimal point," said Mr. Crooks. "Later when the sample is separated into its chemical elements, we know that the weight of the separate elements ought to add up to the combined weight with which we started."

### Competent Personnel

If "modern" is the word for the new Laboratory, "scientific" is the word for its personnel. Nothing—not even a decimal point—is overlooked.

"We have good people," commented Mr. Crooks, and it was evident that a modern Laboratory and $150,000 worth of diverse equipment were in competent hands.

The tour was over. As I was leaving, I put a superfluous question to Mr. Crooks, "How do you and your staff like your new quarters?"

He smiled with the smile of a man who has found the alchemist's gold nugget.

**The Editor**

# *RALPH A. HOOT*

(Continued from Page 1)

A 1923 graduate of the University of Michigan, with a B.S. in sanitary enginering, Mr. Hoot was supervisor of sewage treatment works at Ft. Wayne, Indiana, before coming to Philadelphia in 1950.

Sept. 1965

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

PHILADELPHIA, PA. BELMONT DEDICATION EDITION

1965

## *MAYOR TO FILL BASINS AT BELMONT DEDICATION*

*September 20*—Mayor James H. J. Tate will throw a switch to let water into several big outside basins today at the new Belmont Water Treatment Plant.

The Mayor's act will climax the official dedication of the new plant, which will take place at 11:00 a.m. Several hundred guests, including public officials, business and civic leaders, engineers, and out-of-town water utility managers, will be welcomed by the Mayor.

Water Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter will be master of ceremonies.

Following the ceremony, guests will be taken on guided tours of the plant. A buffet luncheon will be served at 12:30

## MODERN BELMONT PLANT TO SUPPLY FINE WATER TO 400,000 CUSTOMERS

A sparkling jewel along Philadelphia's "golden mile" is the new Belmont Water Treatment Plant, the third "push-button" plant to be completed by the city in six years.

With its light brick buildings and concrete basins, the new plant is the last major facility in a $500 million water improvement program (1946-70). This program, now 80% finished, has given Philadelphia one of the most up-to-date water supplies in the country. (See page 8)

Built at a cost of $10.4 million, the new Belmont Plant will supply 400,000 Philadelphians living west of the Schuylkill River. Because of its modern facilities, including extensive automatic and semi-automatic controls, the new plant will provide its customers with water of fine quality.

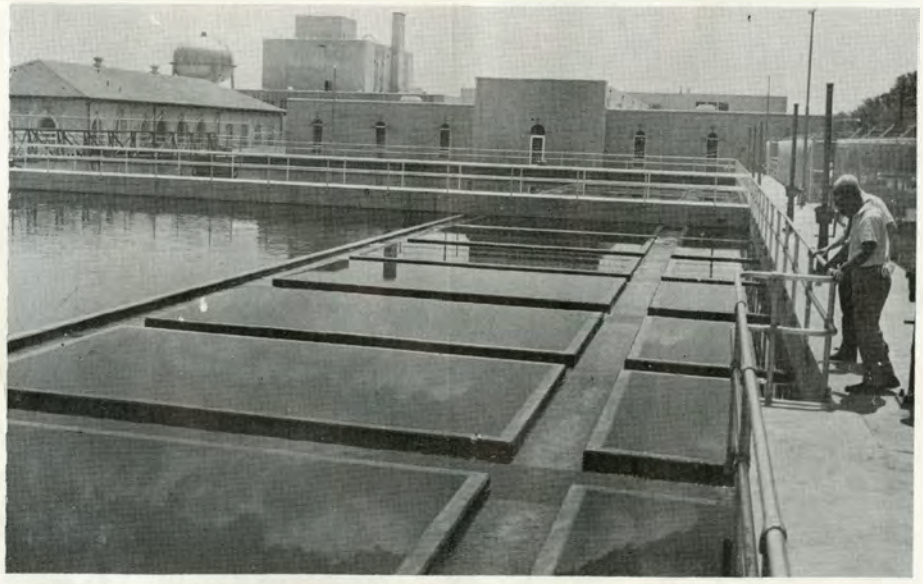
### Advantages of New Plant

The new plant replaces a 60-year old plant, which was largely underground. Though its rated capacity of 78 million gallons daily is only eight million gallons more than that of the old plant, the new plant will have many advantages over the old:

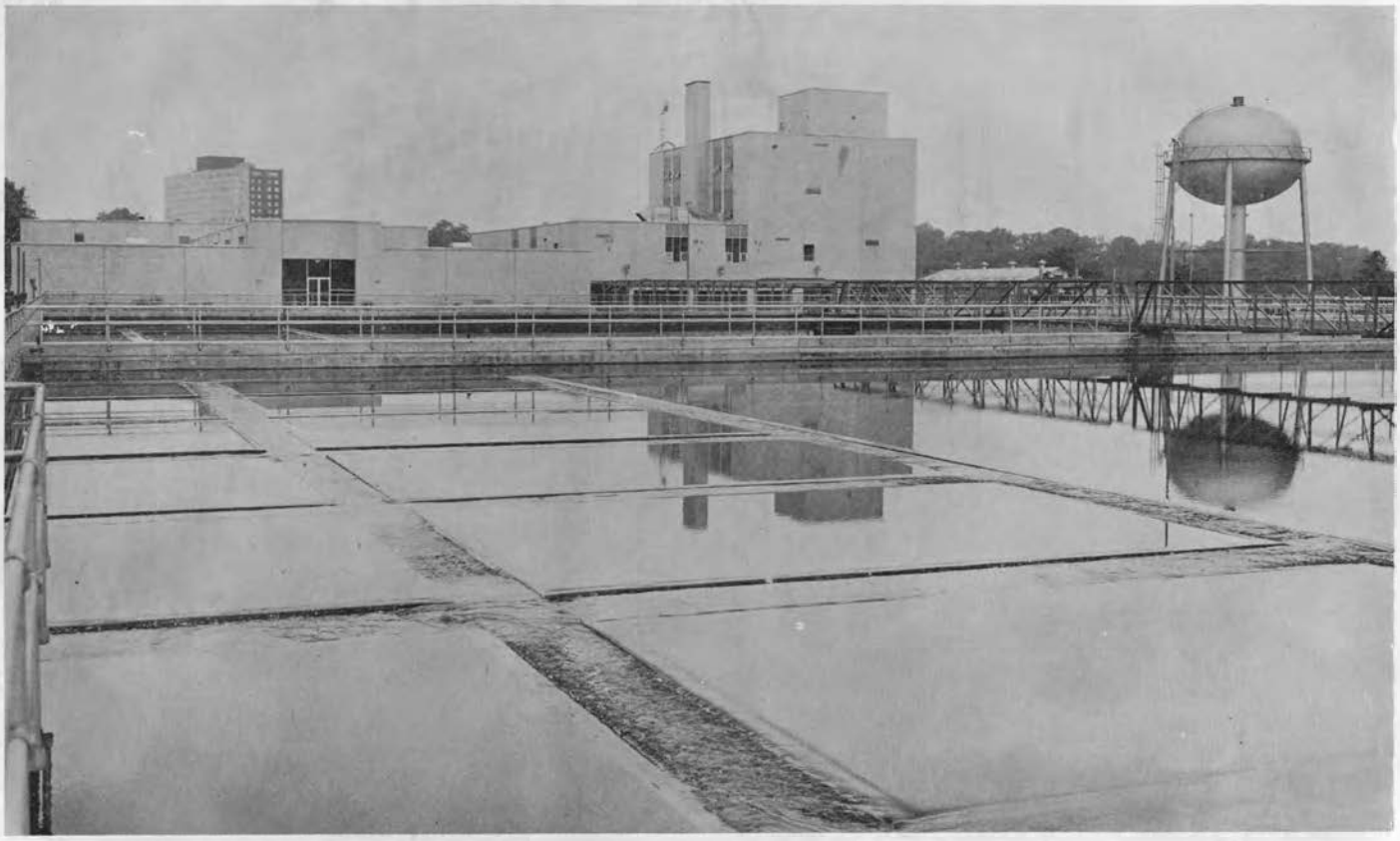
1. The new plant will have a peak rate capacity of 108 million gallons daily, thus enabling it to meet more easily the needs of consumers during emergencies and hours of high demand. Peak rate capacity was almost non-existent in the old plant.

2. Housed in a one-story building, the new rapid-sand filter beds cover just one acre. They will replace 13 acres of old slow-sand beds dating from 1903-04 and a half-acre of old rapid-sand beds built in 1926. The greater compactness of the new plant will permit more efficiency and better control.

*(Continued on page 2)*



**THE NEW BELMONT PLANT will be able to treat 78 million gallons of water daily at regular operating rates. Push-button controls (as in top photo) are a common feature of the new plant.**



**A THING OF BEAUTY is the new Belmont Plant with its light brick buildings and great concrete basins. The great sedimentation basin (foreground) will permit impurities to settle to the bottom of its 17-ft. depths, while filtration and chemical treatment will take place in the buildings to the rear.**

# MODERN BELMONT PLANT

*(Continued from page 1)*

3. Water filtration in the new plant will be more efficient, because filtration rates will be set entirely by semi-automatic controls. Moreover, the 26 new filter beds, all of the rapid-sand type, can be kept in operation almost continuously, with only brief half-hour intervals for cleansing them of accumulated debris. Washing of the filter beds will be done with the press of a button by the operator. By contrast, the slow-sand beds in the old plant had to be taken out of service for 10 days to two weeks while they were washed by a crew of men with a special machine.

4. Semi-automatic controls will be used extensively throughout the new plant. They will be used to regulate the rate of water flow and the application of chemicals at various points in the treatment process. Controls will be more centralized than at the city's other two "push-button" plants. Filter beds, for example, will be regulated from a central panel only, without need for individual control consoles.

## HISTORY OF THE NEW PLANT

January, 1962 — Construction began.

May, 1964—South basins, chemical building, and south wing of filter building went into service.

June, 1965—North basins and north wing of the filter building went into service.

September 20, 1965—The new plant was completed and dedicated.

**WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS**

*Published by*

THE WATER DEPARTMENT

**Philadelphia, Pa.**

*Mayor, James H. J. Tate*

*Commissioner, Samuel S. Baxter*

**Editor** ..... Raymond J. Harris
**Editorial Assistant** ..... Mary Schmidt

## VISITORS WELCOME AT NEW WATER PLANT

Your family or friends may wish to see the new Belmont Plant. Why not bring them or urge them to visit it?

An open house will be held for the public on Saturday, September 25, and Sunday, September 26, from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Families, organizations, and individuals will be welcome. Parking and guided tours are free.

After September 26, visiting hours will be as follows:

Monday through Friday each week, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., organized groups only, by appointment. Telephone MU 6-3803.

Saturdays and Sundays, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., families, individuals, and organizations. No appointment necessary.

# BELMONT HAS EVERYTHING FROM MIXERS TO FILTERS

Facilities of the new Belmont Plant provide for every aspect of water treatment. They include:

1. A new five-story chemical building for pre-treatment and post treatment of water with chemicals.

2. Six chambers for rapid mixing and eight chambers for slow mixing of water with chemicals.

3. Four open sedimentation basins holding a combined 14.2 million gallons of water at any given time.

4. A new one-story filter building housing 26 new rapid-sand filter beds.

5. A 72-ft. high steel tank holding 150,000 gallons of filtered water for washing of filter beds.

6. A new underground clear well holding 1.8 million gallons of filtered water.

7. A renovated administration building with new storage and conference rooms at one end and the old high service pumping station at the other.

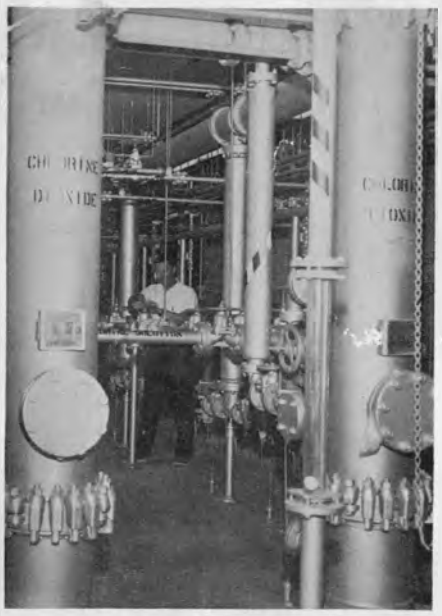
Retained from the old plant are:

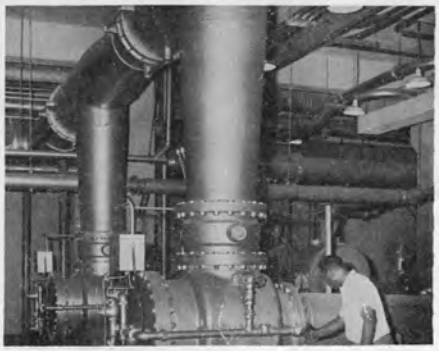
1. The two basins of the old raw water reservoir. Combined retention capacity, 72 million gallons.

2. An underground filtered water basin of 16.8 million gallons capacity.

Although not technically part of the new plant, the Water Quality and Research Unit occupies new laboratories in the old ozone building.

Within the coming year, the old underground slow-sand filters will be converted into reservoirs for storage of 21.4 million gallons of filtered water.





**INTRICATE MAZES of piping are to be seen in many places at Belmont. Above, piping for chlorinators and chlorine evaporators. Right, wash water piping and pumps.**

## BUILDERS OF BELMONT

Many men and firms worked on the Belmont Plant. Some of them follow:

### Engineering Architects

Morris Knowles, Inc., consulting engineers, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### Principal Contractors

*General construction:* Malan Construction Corporation, New York, N. Y., $7,500,000.

*Filter equipment:* Pitt Construction Company, Pittsburgh, Pa. $1,235,000.

*Electrical system:* Ace Electric Company, Philadelphia, Pa., $770,000.

*Heating and ventilating system:* The Welsbach Corporation, Philadelphia, Pa., $490,000.

*Plumbing system:* Williard Inc., Philadelphia, Pa., $124,000.

*Landscaping:* Warner S. Hamilton and Son, Chester, Pa., $40,500.

### Water Department Personnel

*Overall direction:* Samuel S. Baxter, commissioner and chief engineer; John Briggs, assistant chief engineer, planning arrangements.

*General field direction:* Kenneth Zitomer, division engineer and acting chief of Construction Branch; Samuel S. Wilson, former chief of Construction Branch, resigned.

*Resident engineers:* Fred Plegge, David Anderson, Thomas Hovanietz, Richard Wade, and Daniel McCusker; Joseph McKenna, field office engineer.

*Field inspectors:* John Calhoun, electrical; Jack Gibbons, structural.

**CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW BELMONT PLANT required much engineering talent. Among Water Department engineers were, l. to r., Joseph McKenna, Kenneth Zitomer, Samuel Wilson, Fred Plegge, E. L. Huber, John Calhoun, R. C. Harris, and Thomas Brady.**

# BELMONT TO TREAT RIVER WATER WITH SERIES OF SCIENTIFIC STEPS

West Philadelphians will receive high quality water . . . thanks to the new Belmont Water Treatment Plant. The plant will purify and improve Schuylkill River water through a series of scientifically controlled steps.

In sequence, these steps are the following:

1. *Intake:* Water for the plant is drawn from the pool formed by Fairmount Dam. The water enters intake gates just south of the Columbia Avenue Bridge and is pumped uphill by the neighboring Belmont Raw Water Pumping Station. The latter, which was modernized several years ago, is an automatic station with a pumping capacity of 140 million gallons daily.

2. *Pre-sedimentation:* Entering the two basins of the old raw water reservoir across the street from the plant, the river water receives free residual chlorination to destroy organic materials. It passes through the reservoir in approximately 22 hours. Some impurities settle out in the process.

3. *Chemical Building:* Leaving the raw water reservoir, the water flows beneath the new chemical building. As it passes, it receives precisely controlled dosages of chemicals, applied by automatic weighing and feeding equipment. The chemicals may include chlorine, or chlorine dioxide, carbon (for taste and odor control), lime (for the control of the ratio of acidity to alkalinity), and alum to promote "floc" formation.

4. *Rapid Mixing Basins:* The chemicals are initially mixed with the water in six "rapid mixing" basins located beneath the chemical building. Mixing requires 30 seconds and is performed by four-bladed paddles on single vertical shafts.

5. *Slow Mixing Basins:* From the "rapid mixing" basins, the water flows to small open basins on both sides of the plant. In these basins, mixing of water and chemicals takes place more gently, spread over 42 minutes. The water is slowly stirred by 80 paddles of the transverse type, driven by equipment set in dry wells. As the mixing proceeds, tiny snowflake-like granules (or "floc") form in the water. Many of the impurities adhere to this "floc." There are eight basins.

6. *Sedimentation Basins* Passing from the slow mixing basins, the water enters the large open sedimentation basins—two on each side of the plant. Here many of the suspended impurities in the water settle to the bottom, dragged down by their own weight as they cling to the "floc." At the bottom, the sludge is swept away by great clarifier arms measuring 70 feet in length. With an average water depth of 17 feet, the basins hold a combined 14.2 million gallons of water. The water passes through the basins in four to four and one-half hours.

**SCHUYLKILL RIVER WATER enters these intake gates to be pumped by a neighboring pumping station to the new Belmont Plant.**

7. *Filter Building:* Water is given its final polish in the filter building, where it passes downward through 28 inches of sand and 10 inches of gravel. There are 26 filter beds of the rapid sand type. Each is capable of filtering two gallons of water per square foot per minute, or about three million gallons daily. In a pinch, however, the rate per filter bed can be increased to four and one-half million gallons daily.

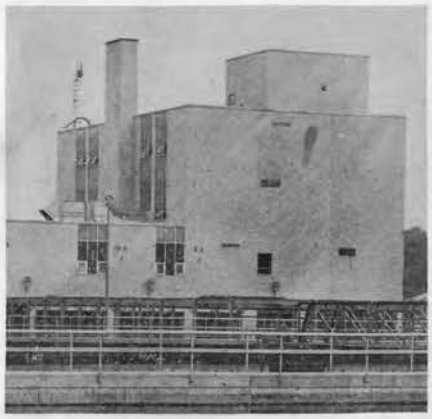
8. *Post Treatment:* Leaving the filter building, the purified water flows beneath the chemical building again for addition of final chemicals —lime for "pH" control, fluoride to reduce tooth decay in children, and phosphate for control of pipe corrosion.

9. *Distribution:* Most of the treated water flows directly to consumers, some of it by gravity and some of it pumped by the high service station located at the plant. A small part of the filtered water is stored in underground basins for emergency use.

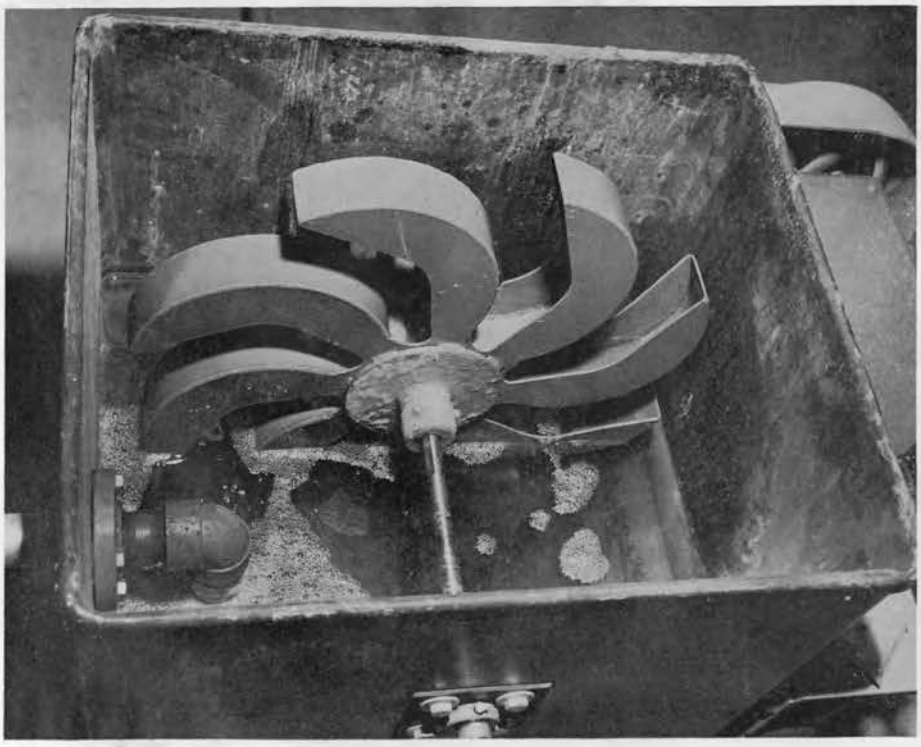
Water passing through the plant is tested by the plant laboratory at each step in the treatment process.

**IN THIS HUGE RESERVOIR, which holds 72 million gallons, the river water is chlorinated before it flows to the new Belmont Plant (background). The water takes 22 hours to pass through the reservoir.**

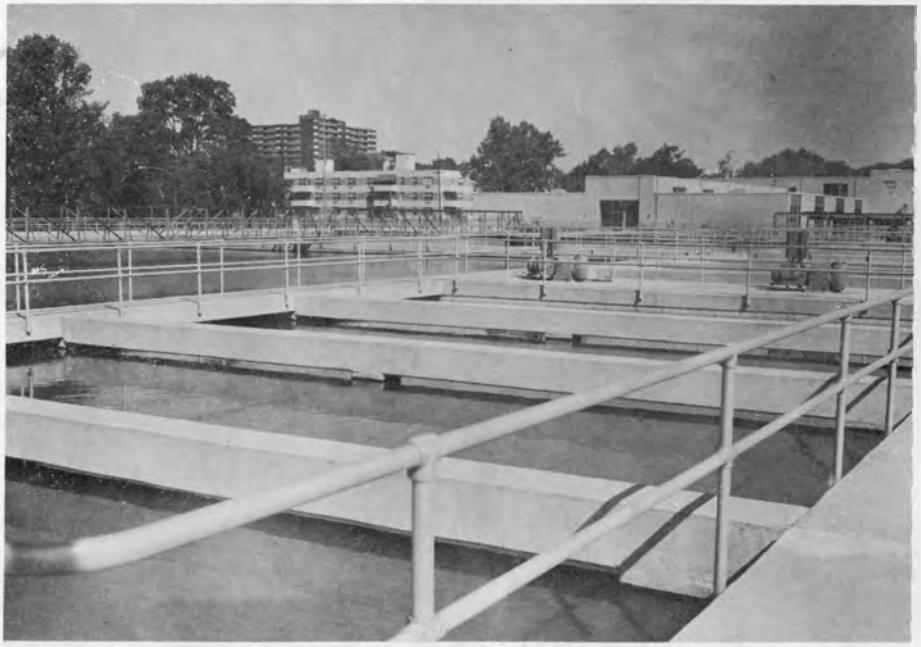
# RIVER WATER GETS CHEMICALS HERE

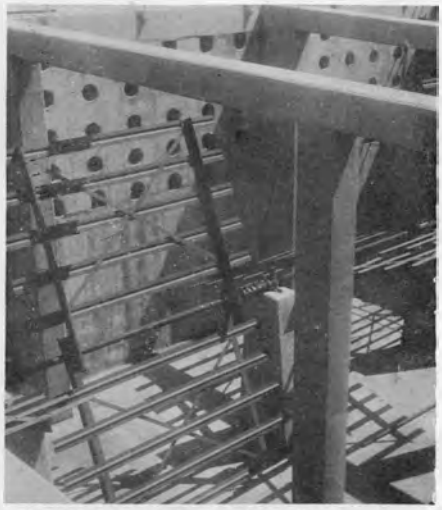


**HIGHLY AUTOMATED** is the chemical building where numerous chemical feeding devices are monitored and regulated from electronic control panels. The central panel shown above links the operator to the chlorinators (left), alum feeder (below), and lime feeder (right and right bottom). These devices inject precisely measured dosages of chemicals into the river water flowing beneath the building.

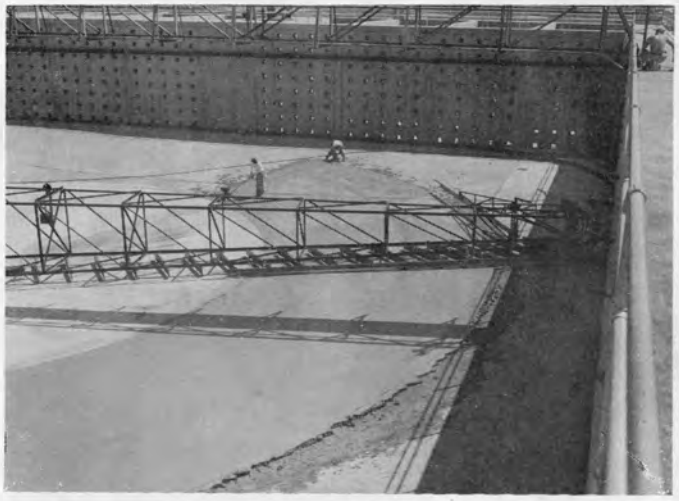


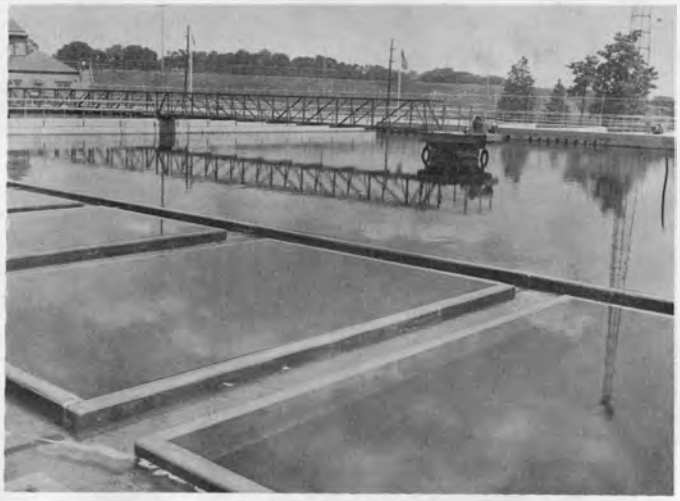
# BASINS SETTLE OUT IMPURITIES





**SLOW MIXING BASINS (left) take over when the river water leaves the chemical building. The alum-and-lime laden water is stirred for 42 minutes by paddles of the type shown above, causing snow-flake-like "floc" to form.**





**LARGE SEDIMENTATION BASINS receive the water from the slow mixing basins. In the sedimentation basins the impurities adhere to the "floc" and settle to the bottom, where they are swept away by long steel clarifier arms (left). The clarified water flows off (right).**

# LABORATORIES MAKE 1.5 MILLION TESTS OF CITY WATER YEARLY

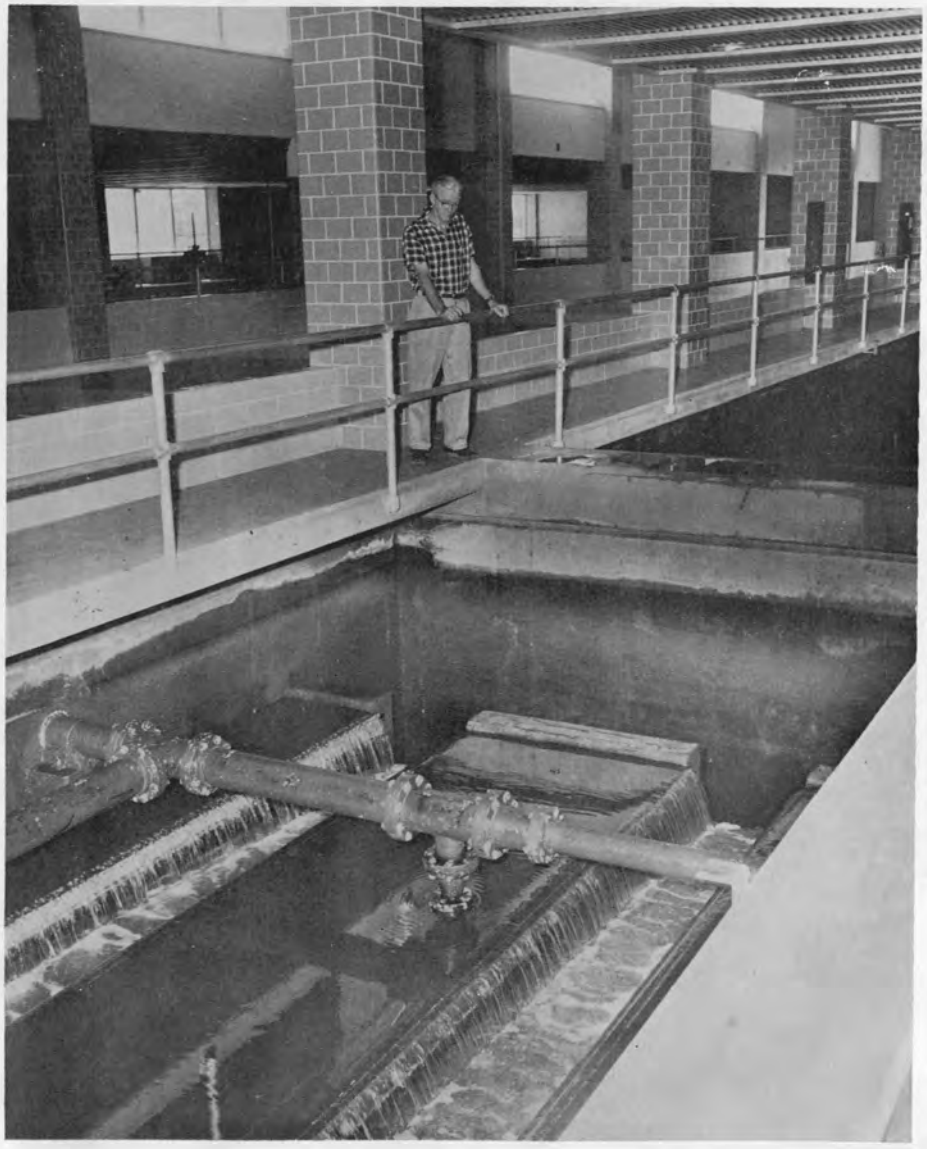
To assure good water for consumers, Water Department chemists and engineers make one and one-half million tests of water samples each year. Samples are collected daily from rivers, reservoirs, treatment plants, pipelines, and other points throughout the city.

Such tests are made throughout the treatment process at Belmont by a small laboratory in the chemical building.

In addition, the key laboratories of the Water Quality Control and Research Unit are located at Belmont. This unit, housed in the renovated former ozone building, keeps an eye on water quality in all parts of the water system. It also seeks new methods for turning out better water at all the treatment plants.

As a result of new plants and careful laboratory controls, the coliform organism count of Philadelphia water averages only 3% to 5% of what is permitted under the drinking water standards of the U. S. Public Health Service for interstate carriers. This makes it one of the purest treated waters in the nation.

# FILTER BUILDING POLISHES WATER



**FINAL TOUCHES** are given the water in the filter building where it passes downward through 38 inches of sand and gravel in 26 rapid sand filter beds. Operated from big control panels like the one below, the beds can be regulated or cleansed with the press of a button. Filter bed at right is being washed with water supplied by tank at lower right. Above, a filter bottom for carrying water is adjusted in one of the beds.

# PHILADELPHIA LEADS NATION IN WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENT

Philadelphia's water and sewerage systems are today among the most modern in the country. This is because of extensive modernization and expansion of facilities in the past 19 years.

These new facilities include:

*Water Treatment Plants:* Besides the new Belmont Plant, the Water Department has completed a $25 million plant at Torresdale (1959) and an $11 million plant at Queen Lane (1960). All of these plants are semi-automatic and rapid sand. They have a combined rated capacity of 480 million gallons of water daily and can muster a peak rate of 681 M.G.D.

*Water Pumping Stations:* Of the 15 water pumping stations, 14 are completely new or modernized. The 13 distribution stations have a combined pumping capacity of 1,500 million gallons daily—700 M.G.D. river water and 800 M.G.D. filtered water. This is a capacity increase of 275 million gallons daily in 10 years. The two high pressure stations, used for fire fighting, can each pump 15,000 gallons per minute.

*Microwave Control:* Important portions of the distribution system (most pumping stations, reservoirs, some pipelines and valves, etc.) are now monitored by microwave from a "Load Control Center," opened in 1960. An operator at the center can start or stop pumps in distant stations by pressing a button. Water flow rates, pressures, etc. are received by the center second by second.

*Water Storage:* New underground reservoirs holding 143 million gallons of filtered water have been completed. The department has also built five water storage tanks, and has started, or will soon start, construction of additional underground reservoirs. By 1967, storage capacity for filtered water will rise to one and one-eighth billion gallons.

*Water Mains:* The Water Department has built 550 miles of new water mains since 1952. The system as a whole has expanded to nearly 3,200 miles.

*Water Meters:* Since 1955, water meters have been placed in 140,000 unmetered properties, plus thousands of new homes. Every meter in the city has been thoroughly overhauled or replaced, and every property is now metered. There are 526,000 water meters.

*Sewage Treatment Plants:* To protect the rivers, the city completed three modern sewage treatment plants between 1951 and 1955. Since then these plants have been expanded or improved in various degrees. With combined rated capacities of 447 million gallons daily, they are currently treating 365 million gallons of sewage each day. This includes 100% of Philadelphia sewage, plus millions of gallons each day from neighboring communities.

*Sewage Pumping Stations:* Since the early 1950's, the Water Department has built or rebuilt seven sewage pumping stations. These have a combined pumping capacity of one billion gallons daily.

*Intercepting Sewers:* Of the 140 miles of big intercepting sewers which divert sewage from branch sewers to the sewage treatment plants, 78 miles are new.

*Sewers:* With nearly 2,500 miles of sewers in its system, Philadelphia has built hundreds of miles of sanitary and small storm sewers in the past dozen years. In that time, the sewer system has had a net growth of more than 400 miles.

*Storm Flood Relief:* Many millions of dollars have gone into big projects to control storm flooding. These have included the Wakeling, Passyunk Avenue, Mill Creek, Main Relief and other sewers, as well as the straightening of Frankford Creek.

## CITY HAS PLENTIFUL WATER FOR ALL NEEDS

Despite drought . . . despite low rivers . . . despite the threat of unusual salt water intrusion in the Delaware, Philadelphia has an abundance of good water.

There is no water rationing in Philadelphia, nor is there likely to be. For Philadelphians this is the outstanding fact about the current drought.

This water abundance is no accident. It results from 19 years of planning and work, described elsewhere on this page.

The Hon. Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the Interior, recently referred to Philadelphia's efforts, which he said should serve as a model for other cities. Forming a well organized, interrelated program, these efforts have greatly improved the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers and provided the fine facilities needed to turn the river water into high quality drinking water.

## CITY WATER SUPPLY INVESTMENTS

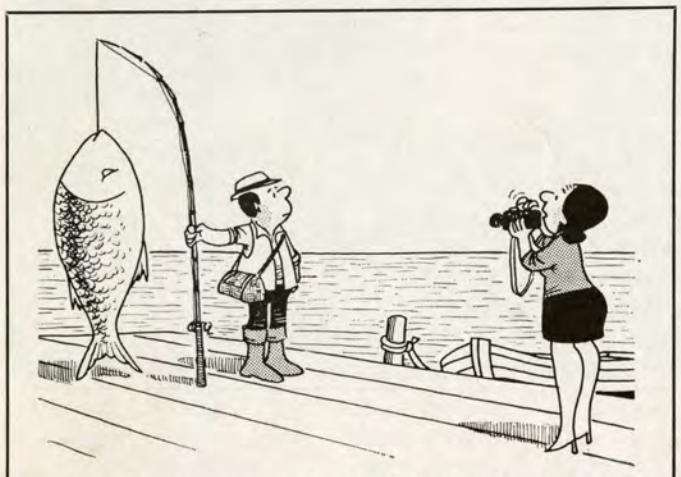
### WATER SYSTEM

| | Encumbered-Expended 1946-1964 | Scheduled 1965-1970 |
|---|---|---|
| Load Control Center | $ 540,003 | $ 816,800 |
| Torresdale Plant | 25,710,012 | 256,000 |
| Queen Lane Plant | 11,460,524 | 690,600 |
| Belmont Plant | 12,305,601 | 313,600 |
| Water Pumping Stations | 10,310,267 | 1,136,000 |
| Water Mains—Built, Replaced, Cleaned, Lined | 62,309,109 | 35,750,000 |
| Filtered Water Storage | 7,402,351 | 8,538,500 |
| Universal Metering | 4,788,064 | 0 |
| Miscellaneous | 3,629,506 | 0 |
| High Pressure Fire System | 2,185,583 | 3,267,000 |
| Water System Capital Improvements | $140,641,020 | $50,768,500 |

### SEWERAGE SYSTEM

| | Encumbered-Expended 1946-1964 | Scheduled 1965-1970 |
|---|---|---|
| Northeast Works | $ 15,361,713 | $ 2,473,400 |
| Southeast Works | 6,624,501 | 89,600 |
| Southwest Works | 9,054,080 | 1,099,400 |
| Sewage Pumping Stations | 2,611,123 | 0 |
| Interceptors | 55,320,384 | 3,505,600 |
| Sewers—Built, Replaced | 120,840,089 | 55,158,700 |
| Miscellaneous | 2,296,929 | 163,900 |
| Storm Flood Relief | 26,925,750 | 4,566,800 |
| Sewerage System Capital Improvements | $239,034,569 | $67,057,400 |


PHILADELPHIA, PA. SPRING, 1972



"Why do you have to show Ralph Nader how improved the Delaware is?"

# LAB BOAT AUTOMATES TESTS CUTTING HOURS OF OVERTIME

The City's stream research gets a little better every year.

The Water Department has put on board its cabin cruiser a new device that tests a continuous stream of river water for a variety of chemical constituents, as the boat speeds up and down the Delaware River estuary.

Water is pumped to the analyzer, which quickly performs tests that would take hours in plant laboratories. The analyzer checks for such things as nitrites, nitrates, ammonia, total phosphates, orthophosphates, and chlorides.

Formerly, samples for such tests were collected from the river and taken to the plant laboratories, where several chemists worked on them . . . often on overtime. Now one man can take continuous readings in the small laboratory on board the boat.

### To Use Computer

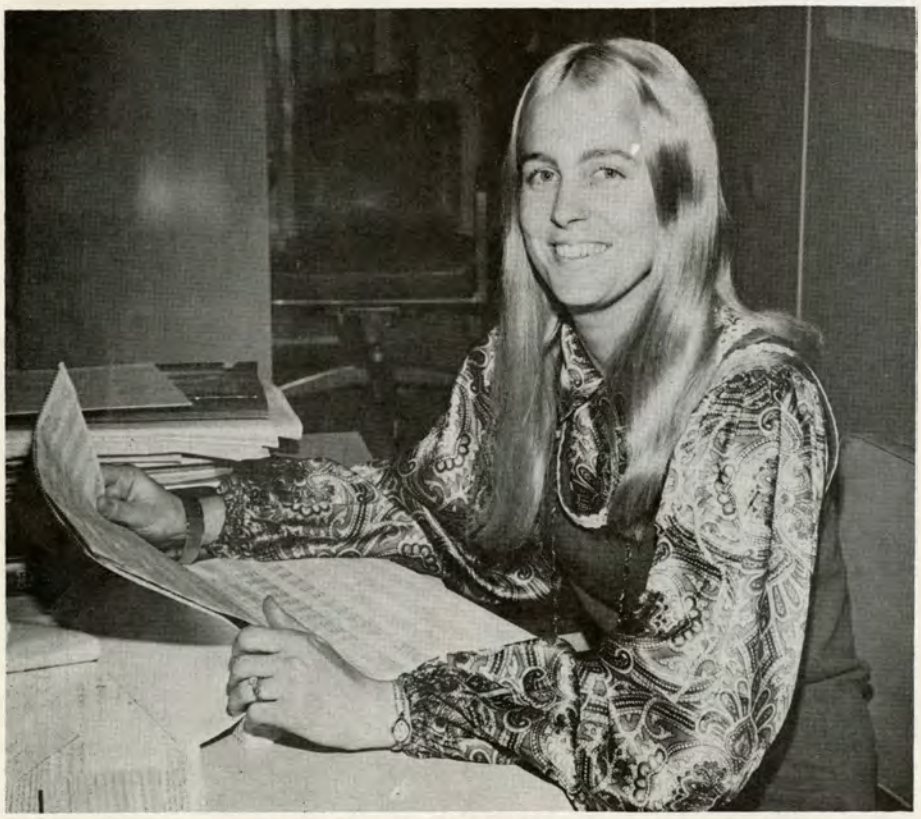
Water to the analyzer will be filtered continuously, and (later this year) a digital printer will be added to convert readings into a form suitable for use on a minicomputer.

Costing $27,000 with the digital printer, the auto-analyzer is, in the language of the engineers, a "modular instrument" that includes a sampler, pump, analytical module, colorimeter, and chart recorder. It will repay its cost within two years through savings on laboratory time.

Auto-analyzers have been used successfully in the medical field to provide fast checks on the condition of patients. The use of this instrument on a stream by the Water Department represents the first such use by any water utility. Best of all, it means that much more of the river can be covered on the weekly run, and the samples will always be fresh.

Handling the new device will be

(Continued on Page 12)



WHO IS THE FAIREST ENGINEER OF ALL? MARCIA WAGNER FOR ONE. SEE STORY ON PAGE 10.

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

*Published Quarterly by*

THE WATER DEPARTMENT

*Mayor, Frank L. Rizzo*
*Managing Director, Hillel S. Levinson*
*Commissioner, Carmen F. Guarino*

**Editor**.....Raymond J. Harris

**Staff**

**Features**.....Rosemary Rosenthal
**Recreation**.....Edward Boyajian


### A TRUE STORY

The Social Security Administration reports that a disabled applicant came into the office to file a disability claim. The applicant slumped in his chair and appeared to have no energy. When one of the office's miniskirted lovelies walked by, however, he brightened and sat up, his eyes following her.

"You don't seem to be in such bad shape," remarked the interviewer, chuckling.

"Yes, I am," replied the applicant. "Everything about me is disabled except my eyes."

# A RECREATION MESSAGE

All of us in management have a strong interest in the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association. This is because WDERA has done so much to provide wholesome recreation for so many employees. WDERA has been in the recreation business, indeed, since 1958—longer than any comparable group in City Hall.

Thanks to its efforts, our employees have had the opportunity to engage in organized bowling, softball, basketball, golf, chess, and other activities, as well as to take advantage of new plays, special tours, etc. These activities, I believe, have helped to make healthy, well adjusted employees, and have brightened the outlook of all of us.

This fine organization has my full support. I hope that many more employees will find it possible to participate in WDERA and its programs.

**CARMEN F. GUARINO**
**Commissioner**

# *From the Recreation Editor's Box*

## WDERA LICKS INFLATION

A $25 U.S. Savings Bond recently went to a lucky member of the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association. The bond, awarded in a special drawing, was one of the many sweeteners offered to all persons who signed up as 1972 members of the association.

The WDERA works for its 630 members in many ways. The association uses its buying power to purchase blocks of tickets at group discounts for sporting events, movies, shows, etc., and then passes the savings on to its membership. It also sponsors Water Department teams for inter-departmental sports. Teams fielded in recent years include bowling, softball, and basketball.

Membership in the association is still a bargain. Despite inflation, the one dollar membership fee hasn't changed in years. Each dollar provides the money to fund the various programs and to award trophies and prizes.

If you are interested in joining, contact your nearest WDERA representative, or Jim Thompson, membership chairman (ext. 27-223). It is never too late.

## YOU CAN FISH OR BICYCLE . . .

If you were wise enough to join the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association, you can look forward to some colorful events in the coming months. Among the galas planned are—

- An Ella Fitzgerald-Buddy Rich banquet at the Latin Casino
- A trip to Longwood Gardens
- A deep sea fishing trip
- A Water Department bicycle trip
- An intra-city chess tournament

So far this year, WDERA has made discount tickets available for a U.S.S.R. vs. U.S.A. hockey match, a Penguins vs. Flyers hockey game, a New York vs. 76ers basketball game, a night at Liberty Bell Park, and the opening night at the Phillies game.

Watch your bulletin board for further details.

## . . . OR JOIN YMCA THRU WDERA

Another bonus awaits you if you join the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association. WDERA has arranged for you to obtain full-membership privileges in the Central Y.M.C.A., 1421 Arch Street, at a 20% discount.

Full privilege entitles you to visit the "Y" at your leisure and you are *not* required to attend in a group. To obtain this privilege, at least 10 or more WDERA members must apply for "Y" membership at the same time. If you are interested, call Ed Boyajian, ext. 3884.

With the discount, the membership cost for you at the "Y" will be only: $40 for men aged 18 to 24, and $56 for men aged 25 or over; $32 for women aged 18 to 24, and $36 for women aged 25 or over. You save from $8 to $14.

## EMPLOYEE DISCOUNTS

As a City employee, you can qualify for discounts at the following places:

Hertz Rent-A-Car, LO 8-8360; Avis Rent-A-Car, SA 4-9600; Sheraton Hotels, LO 8-3300; Tire Service Co., CE 2-7100; Ponnock's Toys, WA 3-1310; Passons Sports Center, WA 5-7557. To get all the facts, call the listed numbers.

# LOU NEMETH CRAWLED UNDER WIRE WITH SON IN ARMS 15 YEARS AGO

Some people think that patriotism is old fashioned, but if you had been denied your basic freedoms, you would really appreciate this country and not be ashamed to admit it. Such a person is Louis Nemeth, the director of our Engineering Computer Center.

Mr. Nemeth was born in Hungary and graduated from a military college as a civil engineer. He had a good position as an engineer and earned points in his job for efficiency, but because his father was a doctor and they did not lean to the "left", Lou was made to sweep floors in the factory. They listened to the Voice of America and the Voice of Free Europe, believed what they heard, knew they could never embrace Communism, and so left their homeland.

Mr. Nemeth was now married and had a two and one-half year old son, and Mrs. Nemeth was pregnant. But they joined thousands of other Hungarians in their escape to freedom. The group just ahead of theirs was shot at by the Russians; so they waited for the following day to make their escape. Their son was fast asleep in Lou's arms when he raised the barbed wire fence for Mrs. Nemeth to crawl under and she then did the same for Lou and the baby. Their second son was born in the U.S.A.

### Met Vice President

They wound up in a refugee camp in December, 1956, in Salzburg, with 38,000 other people. Most of these refugees had trades and were highly skilled and had lots of self-respect. President Eisenhower at this time sent his Vice President, Richard Nixon, on a fact finding mission to this camp to see if conditions were really as stated. Lou was one of six persons called forward to meet the Vice President and his advisors and talk to his interpreters, and then they were all handed booklets to enable then to learn to speak English and find out about the United States.

The refugees left for Munich, where they emplaned for McGuire Air Field in New Jersey. The plane trip took 24 hours, and within that 24-hour period Lou learned all the words, questions and answers in the 24-page booklet. They stayed at Camp Kilmer until they were sponsored by a Protestant minister in Phoenixville, who turned out to have been a classmate of Lou's brother in Hungary.

LOUIS NEMETH

Lou had studied German, French and Latin, but was not sure of his English. So when he applied for and got his job with the Phoenix Steel Corporation, he and his interviewer spoke German. Later he worked with the Chester Valley Engineers in Paoli as a consultant on highway and housing development design. He took computer courses with I.B.M., and in 1961 he worked with Levitt and Sons in Willingboro on their engineering program. In eight months, he became head of this program, designing and implementing various applications of it including water distribution systems analysis. In 1965 he worked for RCA in its data processing office at Cherry Hill, and he entered the Water Department in August, 1967.

In the past 15 years, Lou has visited Hungary twice and, although he found conditions better today than when he left, it is still much better to be in America. He has traveled through 25 states and Puerto Rico.

Lou's in-laws came to visit him and his family after seven years, and they also liked America and have also become United States citizens. Although Lou will eat most anything, he enjoys his mother-in-law's old fashioned Hungarian cooking best. They all like Philadelphia a lot.

**Rosemary Rosenthal**

# *DO YOU REMEMBER?*

You have been with the Water Department a long time if you remember when:

Samuel Schwartz was editor of the Water Department News . . . and our Customer Service Section was on the 10th floor of City Hall Annex . . . Evelyn Blumenthal Caruso was Mr. Palmer's secreatry . . . Joe Radziul was still single . . . Rose Sheridan was Capt. DeCharms' secretary . . . you didn't have to sign in and out on attendance sheets . . . there was no Social Security for City employees . . . no one had electric typewriters . . . there was no Water and Sewer Systems Planning Unit.

There was a sofa in the Ladies' Room . . . a Drexel co-op student became Miss United Fund Torch of Greater Philadelphia and wore Mrs. Samuel Baxter's mink cape for the big parade . . . there was no air conditioning and if the temperature and humidity reached a certain level, you got sent home early . . . there were no computers to handle mailing of Annual Reports . . . Rosemary Rosenthal didn't even have one grandchild.

Sam Wagner eloped . . . Violet Jones and Hazel Griffin were co-workers in Fiscal . . . John Coscia was a co-op student . . . the City had its own automatic telephone system . . . former Mayor Richardson Dilworth made a "secret" visit to the Water Department, but the grapevine was working and when Mr. Dilworth went into the various offices everyone was hard at work.

**Rosemary Rosenthal**

"Dad, I read about a man who was a 'financial genius.' What does that mean?"

"It means that he could earn money faster than his family could spend it."

* * *

Unimportance is the sensation that comes when you make a mistake and nobody notices it.

# WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE

Words don't always mean what they seem to mean. One of our field divisions reported recently: "We pumped down the sewer and ratted it. The sewer is bleeding off slowly."

Ratted it? At first, we were touched by the thoughtfulness of our men in providing a nice sewer home for some poor rats. And we cried over the old sewer bleeding to death. Then we realized that our emotions were a bit misplaced.

# MAHONEY AND ROSS LEAD LIST AS 20 EMPLOYEES "MOVE UP"

With quiet competence, two young engineers are going from better to better. William Mahoney and William Ross, Jr., are among a number of employees recently promoted.

Mahoney, who hails from Worcester, Mass., came into the department as a graduate engineer in 1968, fresh out of Villanova University. He moved rapidly through the civil engineering grades and now is a construction engineer I, responsible for several construction projects at the Northeast Plant. He is currently studying for a master's degree in soil mechanics at Villanova.

Ross, who has stepped up from civil engineer I to II, is that rare breed . . . a specialist in the administrative aspects of engineering. Since 1967, he has been making cost studies, collecting technical data, writing reports, and doing other staff jobs for Water Pollution Control. He has a B.S. in civil engineering (administration) from the University of Delaware.

George Bryant has been looking into our customers' problems since 1964, and doing a good job. Now he will have more problems to solve, as he jumps from field representative to field representative supervisor in Customer Service.

### Beale Promoted

More problems, in the form of broken water mains and open fire hydrants, will also be coming the way of Melvin T. Beale, who has been promoted from assistant supervisor to supervisor. Beale joined Water Distribution back in 1962 after a stint with the Philadelphia Gas Works. Foreman Joseph Lunari has taken over Beale's assistant supervisor job.

**WILLIAM MAHONEY**
**Construction Engineer I**

**WILLIAM ROSS, JR.**
**Civil Engineer II**

**MELVIN T. BEALE**
**Distribution Supervisor**

**TIMOTHY WATERMAN**
**Accountant II**

If anyone knows dollar figures, it must be Timothy Waterman, who has counted them up for the Police, City Controller, Collections and Water Departments since 1962. Waterman entered the Water Department's Fiscal Division with a promotion to accountant II in January. He has a B.S. in accounting from La Salle College.

Other recent promotions include:

*Design:* Paul Jasiewicz, from graduate engineer to electrical engineer I, and Benjamin S. Corsino, from engineering aide II to III.

*Sewer Inlet Cleaning:* Benjamin Johnson, from hospital aide to laborer; Walter L. Martin, from laborer to equipment operator II; and Roosevelt Justice, from laborer to sewer maintenance inspector.

*Sewer Maintenance:* John Ross, from semi-skilled laborer to equipment operator I; Arthur De Santis, Jr., from brick mason to sewer maintenance foreman I; Wilbert Taylor, from equipment operator I to sewer maintenance foreman I; and Robert L. Stevens, from semi-skilled laborer to equipment operator I.

*Water Pumping:* Joseph R. Mercurio, from trades helper to pumping station operator; Thomas E. Plowden and James Gregg, from laborer to mechanic helper; and George Myers from filter plant mechanic-electrician to pumping station engineer.

*Filter Plants:* John Walsh, David Reynolds, and William Richards, from trainee to treatment plant operator I; James W. Burton, from laborer to equipment operator I; and Elwood Unruh, from gardener to gardening supervisor.

*Other:* William J. Williams, from trades helper to meter repairman I at the Meter Shop; Dawson Dow, from laborer to equipment operator I, Distribution; James Coyle, from chemist I to II, Materials Testing Laboratory; and John Ferrero, from public works inspector I to construction project technician II, Construction.

## PROMOTED

**GEORGE BRYANT**
**Field Supervisor**

**JOSEPH LUNARI**
**Ass't. Distribution Supervisor**

Rip Van Winkle is the only man who became famous while asleep.

* * *

Dog tired at night? Maybe you growl too much during the day!

**"Hey, Ethel. Tell the girls at the office about it later. First, call the President."**

## WHITE IS IN, BLUE IS OUT AS VEHICLES CHANGE COLOR

If white stands for purity, Water Department vehicles will soon reflect the purity of the city's water. Within a few months, the department will receive delivery of nearly 70 *white* trucks and passenger cars.

Blue and black will be gradually phased out as vehicle colors, with the purchase of additional white vehicles in coming years. The only exceptions to the new policy will be specialized equipment such as compressors, or trucks that weigh 30,000 lbs. or more. These must be painted yellow for safety.

## *SAIL TO BERMUDA*

*For a week of fun in the sun, you can sail on the "Amerikanis" to Bermuda July 29, under a package deal made by the Philadelphia Municipal Employees' Recreation Council. Return will be August 5.*

*The voyage offers luxurious staterooms with private baths, fine meals, stage shows, dancing, cinema, swimming and other sports. A motor coach connects with the New York pier.*

*Prices range from $275 to $445 per person, based on double occupancy, plus $15 port tax. For reservations, call William Allen, MU 6-5081, or Mrs. Vivian J. Gordon, MU 6-5284.*

# YOU CAN REDUCE PAY WITHHOLDING

If you find more money being withheld from your salary this year, you should blame it in part on the Federal Revenue Act of 1971. This act, according to the Internal Revenue Service, "corrects much of the under-withholding experienced by many employees last year."

In the case of some employees, however, the act has the effect of causing too much money to be withheld for federal tax. This is particularly true of single persons and persons representing one-job families.

If you are one of these, the Internal Revenue Service suggests that you "take a new look" at your income tax withholding. To prevent too much tax from being withheld, you may ask for a "special withholding allowance". This is an exemption in addition to the regular personal exemption (or exemptions) which you normally claim on your W-4 form.

You can take this "special withholding allowance" if you are (1) single, with one job, or (2) married, with a non-working spouse.

### For Those Who Itemize

If you itemize large deductions on your return, there is another type of allowance designed for you. You may, depending on the size of your salary and deductions, take a varying number of extra withholding allowances—up to six or more. These can be taken regardless of your marital status or the number of jobs in your family.

Information sheets explaining the allowances, and forms to apply for them, will be obtained for you by your supervisor if you so request. Supervisors may obtain this material from John LaRosa, assistant chief, Fiscal Division, ext. 3820.

P.S.—To keep the Internal Revenue Service happy, claim only those allowances to which you are entitled.

If at first you don't succeed, try something easier.

## BIENNIAL REPORT AVAILABLE

You can still get a copy of the Water Department's attractive biennial report for 1969-71. Telephone the Commissioner's Office, ext. 3803, or stop at the reception room, 1160, M.S.B.

# BIG WATER TUNNEL TO SUPPLY QUEEN LANE PLANT

## Train Takes Editor Thru First Water Tunnel To Be Built Since 1904

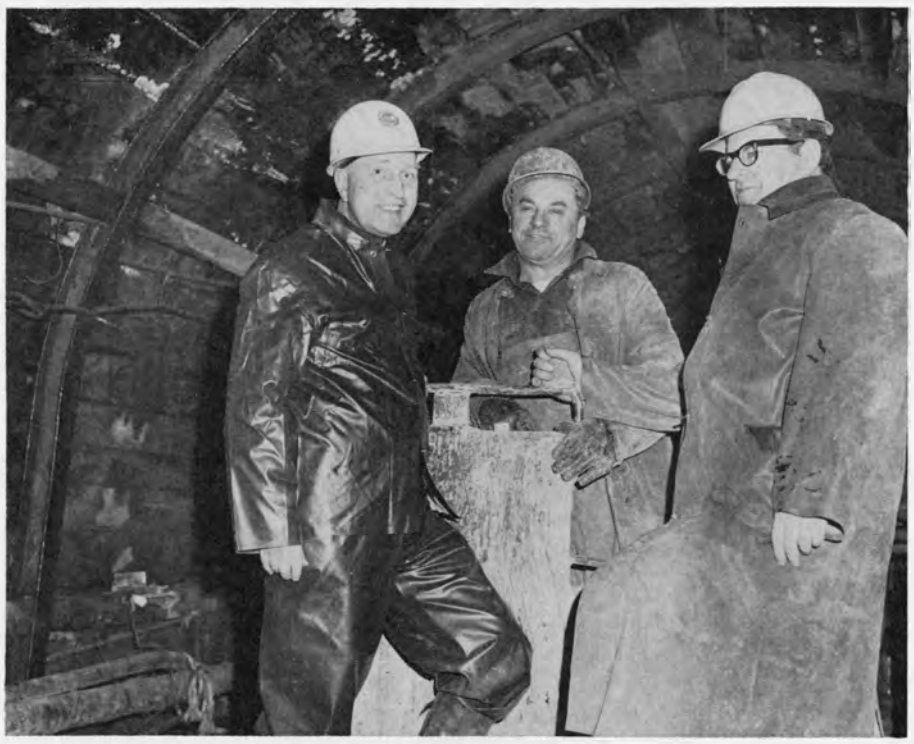
The little diesel train that ran along tiny rails inside the tunnel was fun to ride. City Photographer Ralph Carollo and I clung precariously to a back step and handle bars as the engine pushed a train of cars up a gradual slope from the Schuylkill River toward the Queen Lane Plant.

We had entered the first new tunnel for water supply to be built by the City since 1904.

The 6,000-ft. tunnel, which will bring river water to the plant, rises only 200 feet in more than a mile. On the way, however, the engine swings around right-angled curves and splashes through a constant flow of ground water that has seeped through the overlying rock. The smooth bore of the tunnel and the endless string of lights make it look vaguely like the Lincoln Tunnel running into New York.

This impression is heightened by the ear splitting noise of pumps and the shouts of workers that roar down the tunnel like traffic. And the little train rattles as it goes.

Civil Engineer Richard Wade and his assistant, Inspector William Sproat, had offered us a ride. They had thoughtfully provided us with rain gear, hard hats and boots.



**EDITOR RAY HARRIS (left) and Engineer Richard Wade (right) mount a small diesel train for a half-mile ride through the unconcreted portion of the new water tunnel. The train (photo below) moves through smoothly bored rock, cut by a rock boring machine.**

### Cavernous Rock

The gear came in handy. When the train halted midway through the tunnel, we sloshed through muddy water, climbed over a netting of steel rods, walked along single rods like high-wire performers, and scrambled through a long steel-plated form. Here I bumped my head repeatedly against a steel beam and found out what hard hats are for.

At the tunnel mid-point, the magnitude of the work was truly impressive. We had come through 3,000 feet of cavernous rock, but in the distance stretched another 3,000 feet of finished tube—gleaming white concrete, 18 inches thick and with an inside diameter of eight feet.

"We are pouring concrete for 80 feet of tube a day," said Dick Wade, and he pointed to the fresh concrete behind the liner plates. The concrete had been pumped down a pipe from the surface 80 feet above, and it had spread between the liner plates and the tunnel wall, covering completely the intermediate reinforcing rods. When the concrete hardened, the metal plates would be jacked up in 20 or 30 foot sections and moved forward for the next pour. Pipes from the surface were spaced 600 feet apart.

"The tube has to be very strong," said Bill Sproat, noting the thickness of the concrete. "It will carry up to 150 million gallons of water a day." He added that the tube will replace three existing supply mains, two of which will be reconditioned and retained on stand-by.

Ralph shot his pictures, and we made our way back to the engine, wire-walking along the sides, past workers and cars. As we clung to the engine rolling back through the tunnel, I noticed again the smooth roundness of the bare rock. "The rock is so smoothly bored," said Dick Wade, "that many people mistake it for the finished concrete."

This remarkable job had been done by a rock boring machine, equipped with carbon steel cutters, and guided

by a laser beam to keep it on course. "It beats drilling and blasting," noted Dick. "The tunnel was driven under residential neighborhoods, but the residents never knew we were there."

The machine had also done the job three to five times faster.

(Continued on Page 7)

## NEW WATER TUNNEL

(Continued from Page 6)

As we rolled toward the entrance, I noted rails and ties piled on the cars behind us, and I knew that the days of this little railroad were numbered. As fast as concrete is poured, rails and ties are taken up and the engine moves them out of the tunnel.

For our readers who want free rail passes, it may already be too late. By the time the *News* comes out, nearly all the concrete tube will have been poured, and there will not be much trackage left. By late May, the railroad will be out of business.

Privileged visitors will still be able to see the finished tube, for the tube must be linked to a pipeline loop which will be built at the riverside pumping station (Ridge Avenue and School House Lane). The loop will consist of 1,160 feet of 5-ft. steel pipe, three huge valve chambers, and two magnetic flowmeters that will measure water flow rates and transmit them to a panel in the station.

By early next year, the loop and tube will be carrying river water, destined (after treatment) for several hundred thousand of our customers. Happily, Uncle Sam is expected to pay 44% of the $3.4 million construction cost.

**THE EDITOR**

An optimist is a person who knows exactly how sad a place the world can be. The pessimist is the one who is forever finding out.

**CONCRETE FEED pipe is lowered into a hole by workmen. The pipe will carry concrete to the new tunnel 80 feet below the street, spreading the pour behind liner plates to form a new tube. Inspector William Sproat leans against liner plates in foreground of photo below. The plates can be moved in 20 or 30-ft. sections from spot to spot for the pour.**

# DEPARTMENT HIRES 27 JOB APPLICANTS

The *News* cordially welcomes 27 new employees who have been appointed to permanent positions in the department since December 1. These appointments, all under civil service, fill vacancies created by resignations and retirements.

The new employees include:

*Graduate engineers:* William J. Marazzo and Richard A. DiMenna, assigned to Water Pollution Control Administration; and Robert C. Shipman, Water and Sewer Systems Planning.

*Engineering aides I:* James H. Jones, Design, and Kenneth K. Staib, Water and Sewer Systems Planning.

*Chemists I:* Walter J. Malik, Jr., W.P.C. Administration; and Alfred F. D'Alessandro, Northeast Plant.

*Office personnel:* Maria C. Arcidiacono, clerk-typist II, Fiscal; Marjorie Jo West, clerk I, I.B.M.; and Margie G. Abner, keypunch operator I, I.B.M.

*Laborers:* William O. Thomas, Leander W. Wilson, Albert A. Brown, and Larry A. Lyde, assigned to Sewer Inlet Cleaning; Theodore Hayman and Robert L. Bryant, Water Distribution; and John R. Moore, Sewer Maintenance.

*Treatment plant operators I:* William B. Timoney and Charles J. Murphy, Southeast Plant.

*Security officers I:* Zenas Mitchell and Roland Thompson, Building Maintenance.

*Other:* Raymond Chalmers, mechanical parts inspector, Central Stores; John Saunders, trades helper, Belmont Plant; Charles Cooper, sewer crawler, Sewer Maintenance; Nicholas M. Klimo, water meter repairman I, Meter Shop; James E. Sydnor, custodial worker I, and Eugene M. Gasiewski, chemical technician, Torresdale Plant.

### OUR GLOBAL TRAVELERS

Rosemary Rosenthal has just returned from two weeks in Israel. Rosemary is secretary to Assistant Chief Engineer John Briggs.

Eager travelers in the month of May will include—

Samuel J. Schwartz, assistant to the Commissioner, off for a two weeks' tour of Italy from the Dolomites and Venice to Naples and Rome.

Rosella Sheridan, secretary to the Commissioner, off for a week at fashionable Marbella on Spain's southern coast.

Editor Ray Harris, off to visit Troy and other ancient ruins of Turkey.

## FIND OLDEST WOODEN PIPE

The wooden water main at left is one of the oldest ever discovered in Philadelphia. Found on the east side of City Hall last year, it probably dates back to 1799. It undoubtedly carried water directly from the City's first steam pumping station at Penn Square to residences on East Market Street.

At 14 feet, the pipe at left is also one of the longest segments ever uncovered. It is now in the custody of Tom Beaudet (left), chief of Building Maintenance.

Wooden mains were gradually replaced by cast iron mains between 1817 and 1850.

## PLANTS HAVE RECORD FLOWS

The department's "water pollution control" plants were busier than ever in calendar 1971. They received and treated a daily average of 438.5 million gallons of wastewater—the greatest amount in their history.

The annual daily average has been climbing steadily for a number of years. Society is producing more wastes, and, of course, more water is also being used, the surplus of which flows back into the sewers.

Output of the water treatment plants in calendar 1971 was 361.4 million gallons daily.

# *JIM DILLON NEGOTIATES PACTS AND RIDES THE RAILS TO RELAX*

**By Rosemary Rosenthal**

Forty-five years! No one else presently working for the Water Department has been a City employee longer than James Dillon, civil engineer II, of Projects Control.

Mr. Dillon received his diploma from the Evening School of Drexel Institute in 1929 and also studied City planning and other municipal subjects at the University of Pennsylvania. He started out with the old Department of Public Works in 1925, serving in various capacities until 1944. In the latter year, the newly formed City Planning Commission hired him as its fourth employee. He was a junior land planner, later was assistant land planner, and stayed in that position until 1952, when he became senior planner for the Bucks County Planning Commission.

After 15 months with the Bucks County Commission, Jim was invited to work for the Water Department. In April, 1953, he started with the Design Branch under Alexander Maltman, until former Commissioner Samuel S. Baxter and retired Chief of Projects Control James Brady heard of his work and transferred him to Projects Control.

Jim now negotiates and writes engineering agreements between the City and utilities, railroads, public agencies and private property owners. He also prepares ordinances for City Council and must consult with the Law Department and other City agencies. This is highly responsible work, requiring much knowledge of all phases of engineering, as well as legal information.

Possibly the legal side of it is not too far afield for Jim, as his father was an attorney. Jim was born in West Philadelphia, where he lived until he was 13 years old when his parents moved to his present home in Germantown. He lives with his sister, a school teacher, and both Jim and his sister have a great love of good music—possibly because their late mother was a piano teacher. Jim attends many concerts at the Academy of Music, with his favorites being Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

Jim Dillon's first love is railroading—a love he acquired as a tiny tot when he became fascinated with anything that ran on tracks. He has traveled to all the 48 states, Canada and Mexico by rail; he entered Juarez, Mexico, by taking a trolley from El Paso, Texas, for five cents. His favorite railroad trip was across Canada from Montreal to Vancouver, through the Canadian Rockies.

**JAMES DILLON**

Jim was vice president for five years of the National Railway Historical Society (10,000 members), and he belongs to other railway societies, engineering societies, the Steamship Historical Society of America, the Franklin Institute, and the Catholic Philopatrian Institute. Because he is so widely traveled and involved in so many organizations, he can walk down the main street of any large city in the country and be stopped by friends, especially in Chicago. Jim has a large collection of technical books and model railroad equipment, and he has model trains up all year around at home, not just for Christmas.

When Jim is ready to retire, he feels he will go to Florida for the warmer climate and to indulge in all the good foods he is used to eating. We are not anxious to see Jim retire, but we certainly hope he can continue to enjoy his hobby and all his other activities.

# "PLAY IT SAFE TO SURVIVE" IS MESSAGE OF NEW SAFETY REPORT

If you commit an unsafe act, the odds are high that you will be injured. The statistical proof of this is in Safety Officer John T. Cappio's annual report for 1971.

In 1971, there were 335 injuries to Water Department employees resulting from their own carelessness. Such carelessness included inattention, improper lifting or handling, failure to use safety equipment, and unsafe methods or use of tools.

Hazardous conditions, over which the employee may have had little control, caused only 34 injuries, and even a majority of the 199 motor vehicle accidents occurred on clear and dry days. At least 106 of the latter could have been prevented, however, through greater care.

The price of unsafe acts was physical suffering. Back injuries were most common, but employees suffered injuries to literally every other part of the body as well. Heads, eyes, faces, necks, chests, abdomens, shoulders, arms, wrists, thumbs, knees, feet, and toes were just some of the injured parts.

Most of these injuries could have been avoided, according to Cappio, through alertness, attention to rules, and use of safety equipment such as hard hats, goggles, protective shoes and gloves.

Happily, there was a brighter side to the picture. Safe Driver Awards were earned by 288 employees who drove Water Department vehicles for an entire year without a preventable accident. Many employees too were wise enough to avoid injury at work by following the best safety practice. Safety First, they felt, was better than a life insurance policy.

**ACCIDENT VICTIMS' HEAVEN**

"Sure, John Cappio was right! But do you have to keep on drinking toasts to his superb foresight?"

There are bigger things than money. For instance: bills!

* * *

A halo has to slip only a few inches to become a noose.

# SEVEN EMPLOYEES GET CERTIFICATES FROM PGTI

The City's "college after hours" is still popular with Water Department employees. Seven more employees recently received certificates for completion of courses in the Philadelphia Government Training Institute.

Among them was fiscal clerk Albert Raiguel,. who added three more certificates to the growing pile which he has built over the years. His latest certificates were for speed reading, data processing, and Spanish conversation.

Other certificate winners were: Irene Bracey, graph analysis and interpretation; Greta M. Ellis, speed reading and preparation for civil service tests; and Charlie L. Carter, Steven R. Davis, John A. McGonigle, and David L. Ransome, basic supervision. Davis also completed speed reading.

**STUDIOUS EMPLOYEES** receive certificates from Commissioner Carmen F. Guarino (right) for the completion of courses in the Philadelphia Government Training Institute. From left, Charlie L. Carter, Albert Raiguel, and Steven R. Davis.

# MARCIA WAGNER AND NANCE KUNZ BRING AN IMPROVED LOOK TO CITY ENGINEERING

**By Rosemary Rosenthal**

It has been estimated that the Water Department has about 150 engineers. And who is the fairest of them all? Engineers fair? Seeing is believing, and we saw and we believe that Mrs. Nance D. Kunz and Mrs. Marcia M. Wagner are not only the fairest of all our engineers but also very attractive and brilliant.

Nance received her bachelor of engineering degree from Villanova University in May, 1969, and a master of science degree from the University of Virginia in August, 1970—both degrees being in chemical engineering. She is presently going to Drexel night school for her Ph. D. in chemical engineering, and in fact she was the first girl to graduate in that major from Villanova. She was also the first American girl graduate at the U. of Virginia to get her master's in chemical engineering.

### Nance Was Sorority Head

Nance seems to have been a very busy girl, as she was on the Yearbook staff, on the student court, president and vice president of her sorority, and also made the college "Who's Who". She also served as a graduate research assistant and at present is an advisor for her college sorority, Alpha Xi Delta, a national group. She is also a member of three top professional engineering societies and the Philadelphia Engineers' Club.

Nance is the only daughter in a family of four, and also the only one in the family except her father (an engineer with Philco) who is technically oriented. Her husband graduated from St. Joseph's College, and during the basketball season things can get pretty tense, because St. Joseph and Villanova are arch rivals.

Nance, who works in the Water Treatment headquarters at Queen Lane, recently earned a plant operator's certificate (see photo below). She and her husband, a government employee, have bought a large sailboat, and they are looking forward to many happy summer days in Sea Isle City, where her parents have a home. And if the sea is too rough for sailing, it will be "tennis anyone?", another hobby of Nance's. And if it rains, it will be cooking and trying out new recipes.

**MARCIA WAGNER, engineer, matches wits with a digital computer in the Computer Unit.**


**NANCE KUNZ is the first woman to earn a certificate to operate the City's water plants. She receives the document from Commissioner Carmen F. Guarino (left).**

### Marcia Was Honor Student

On the other hand, Marcia Wagner, who was appointed a graduate engineer in the Water Treatment Section in July, 1969, was promoted to sanitary engineer I in the Engineering Computer Section in March, 1971, and she is now waiting for her sanitary engineering II appointment.

Marcia received her bachelor of science degree from Bucknell University, where she studied chemical engineering and made the dean's honor list. It was also at Bucknell that Marcia met her husband and, amidst much confusion and consternation, got married the day before graduation. Her husband graduated from Penn's Wharton School of Finance and is presently employed by Lybrand, Ross Bros. & Montgomery; he is also studying for his C.P.A. test in May. When Marcia started her chemical engineering course at Bucknell, there were 65 men enrolled and Marcia, but only Marcia and 13 men completed the course.

Marcia is especially proud of her parents' ambition. Her father, a Post Office employee, is now going to college for his degree in accounting and loves it, while her mother graduated last June from Penn State Extension College with a B.A. in sociology and

*(Continued on page 11)*

**WATER PLANT OPERATORS (above) were among 13 Water Department employees to receive certificates from Commissioner Carmen F. Guarino for completing a State-approved course in water treatment and plant operation. Left to right, Joseph King, Haywood Austin, Guarino, Melvin Beale and John Walsh.**

## KATHLEEN SMITH WEDS

Kathleen Smith, who has been a secretary in W.P.C.D. Administration for the last three years, married Charles Carter on April 29. Mr. Carter is an employee of a local electronics firm.

The newlyweds left for Nassau in the Bahamas to spend their honeymoon.

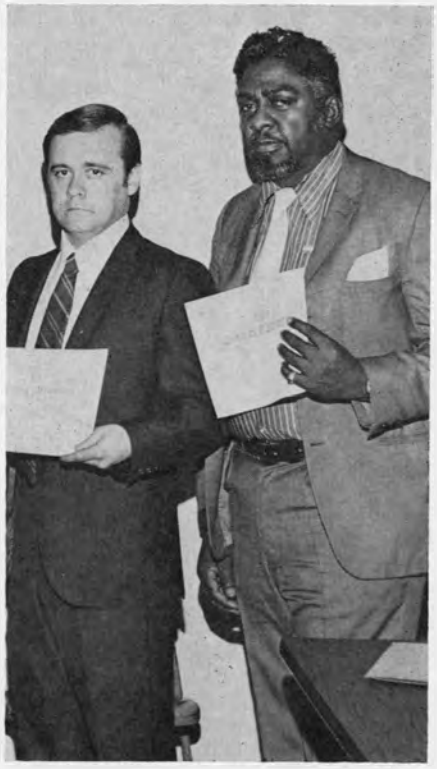
## WOMAN ENGINEERS

(Continued from Page 10)

psychology. Her mother now works for the State Mental Hospital in Harrisburg.

Marcia and her husband are both from different small towns near Harrisburg, and like living in Philadelphia very much. They enjoy all the museums, theaters, and sporting events, because Marcia, having been on her college basketball team and liking swimming and other athletics, enjoys being a spectator too. Her hobby is piano playing. Right now though, the Wagners are both looking forward to the new house they just bought in Green Hill Farms, off City Line Avenue.

It's a real pleasure having girls like Marcia and Nance as co-workers.



**REWARD for 10-weeks' study is held by David Reynolds (left) and Holman Jefferson, who finished plant operator's course.**

## *PLANT OPERATORS FINISH STATE APPROVED COURSE*

Commissioner Carmen F. Guarino presented "certificates of attainment" to 13 Water Operations employees recently.

The certificates, issued by the Public Service Institute of the State Department of Education, were awarded for the completion of a basic course in water treatment and plant operations. Spread over 10 weeks, the 30-hour course also drew 16 water works operators from neighboring communities to the Queen Lane Plant where it was given.

Employees who received certificates were Haywood Austin, Melvin Beale, Lander Coleman, Steven Davis, Herbert Heller, Holman Jefferson, Joseph King, Mrs. Nance Kunz, Donald Totter, David Reynolds, William Richards, Wilbert Terry, and John Walsh.

Coordinated by Schuylkill Treatment Superintendent Hugh Hanson, the course was jointly sponsored by the Pennsylvania Water Works Association and the Pennsylvania Section of the American Water Works Association.

**MICHAEL McGUIRE studies a new auto-analyzer, which detects and measures chemical constituents of river water. The water is collected into tiny flasks of a sampler (left) and then is pumped to a module unit (middle). A colorimeter measures the constituents by intensity of color and the chart (photo at right) records the results.**

## LAB BOAT AUTOMATES

(Continued from Page 1)

Sanitary Engineer Michael McGuire and Chemist Edward Weber, both specially trained for the task. Captain Joseph Ritter is the skipper of the speedy cruiser, Aquadelphia. The boat is operated by the Research and Development Section.

"Just wait until the Environmental Protection Agency hears about this population explosion."

G. K. Chesterton, speaking on the emancipation of women, noted: Twenty million young women rose to their feet with the cry, "We will not be dictated to!"—and proceeded to become stenographers.

## DEAR READER!

The *News* is your newspaper. You can help make it interesting by sending in news stories, feature articles, jokes, personal notes, photographs, cartoons, etc. Send such material to the editor, Ray Harris, 1180 M.S.B.

There may be a writer hidden in you, waiting to be found. Don't deprive us of your talent.

# JOSEPH LENZI ENDS 43 YEARS EIGHTEEN EMPLOYEES RETIRE

Joseph Lenzi was hired by the City on November 27, 1928 and stayed on the job for 43 years. An emergency foreman in Water Distribution, he is one of 18 employees who recently retired.

Wrestling with broken water mains, flooded cellars, and other emergencies, Mr. Lenzi, 66, was a familiar figure in the field. The *News* wishes him many happy retirement years.

The same wish is extended to the other employees:

Charles Bonner, 64, a civil engineer I in the Construction Branch, with 33 years of service.

Edward Migliaccio, 65, an engineering aide III, with 29 years, and Joseph J. Remer, 64, a civil engineer I, with 26 years . . . both in the Design Branch.

William Schweikert, 62, a filter plant mechanic II, Queen Lane Plant, and John Hevener, 62, a field representative, Customer Service . . . both with 25 years of service.

Joseph Conroy, 65, a public works inspector II, Construction, and Stanley Missimer, 65, an equipment operator I, Distribution, both with over 23 years; Arthur Williams, 61, a mechanic helper, Torresdale Plant, and William Thompson, 67, an automotive mechanic, Automotive Maintenance, both with 21 years; James J. Dugan, 56, an instrument technician I, Load Control, with 20 years.

Selim Benavides, 66, a semi-skilled laborer, Plant Maintenance, and Edward Ashton, 65, a custodial worker I, Queen Lane Plant, both with 18 years; Arthur L. Reeves, 57, a laborer at Queen Lane Plant, with 17 years; Michael Kilson, 69, an electrician, Torresdale Plant, and Sam Russell, 67, laborer at Central Stores, both with 12 years; John A. Kane, 66, a treatment plant operator I, Belmont Plant, and John Kulick, 62, a pumping station engineer, Delaware Pumps, both with 11 years.

Although it is impossible to keep track of all retired Water Department employees now living, it is probable that they represent several thousand years of engineering, technical, administrative, trade, and other experience. Their legacy of service will not soon be forgotten.


PHILADELPHIA, PA. SPRING, 1973

CALVIN B. SASSE

# DEPARTMENT CUTS YEAR FROM PLAN TO BUILD NEW WASTEWATER PLANTS

***WHY IS THE MAN AT LEFT SMILING?***

**Because he completed 21 years without taking a day of sick leave. He is one of 11 Water Department employees to do so. Read their remarkable story on pages 4 and 5.**

If Uncle Sam provides federal funds in time, the Water Department will speed up the expansion of its "water pollution control" plants.

This involves knocking a year off the completion dates for new facilities at the Southwest and Southeast Plants. Expansion of the Southwest Plant would be finished by December 31, 1975, and that at the Southeast one year later.

At the same time, an entirely new plant will be built at Northeast. This will be ready by December 31, 1975, while improvements to the existing facilities will be completed two years afterwards.

The total cost for all this expansion will be $233.1 million. The City will be eligible to receive 75% of this from the Federal Government. The construction time table, of course, is dependent on the rate of flow of federal funds to each plant.

### An Agreement

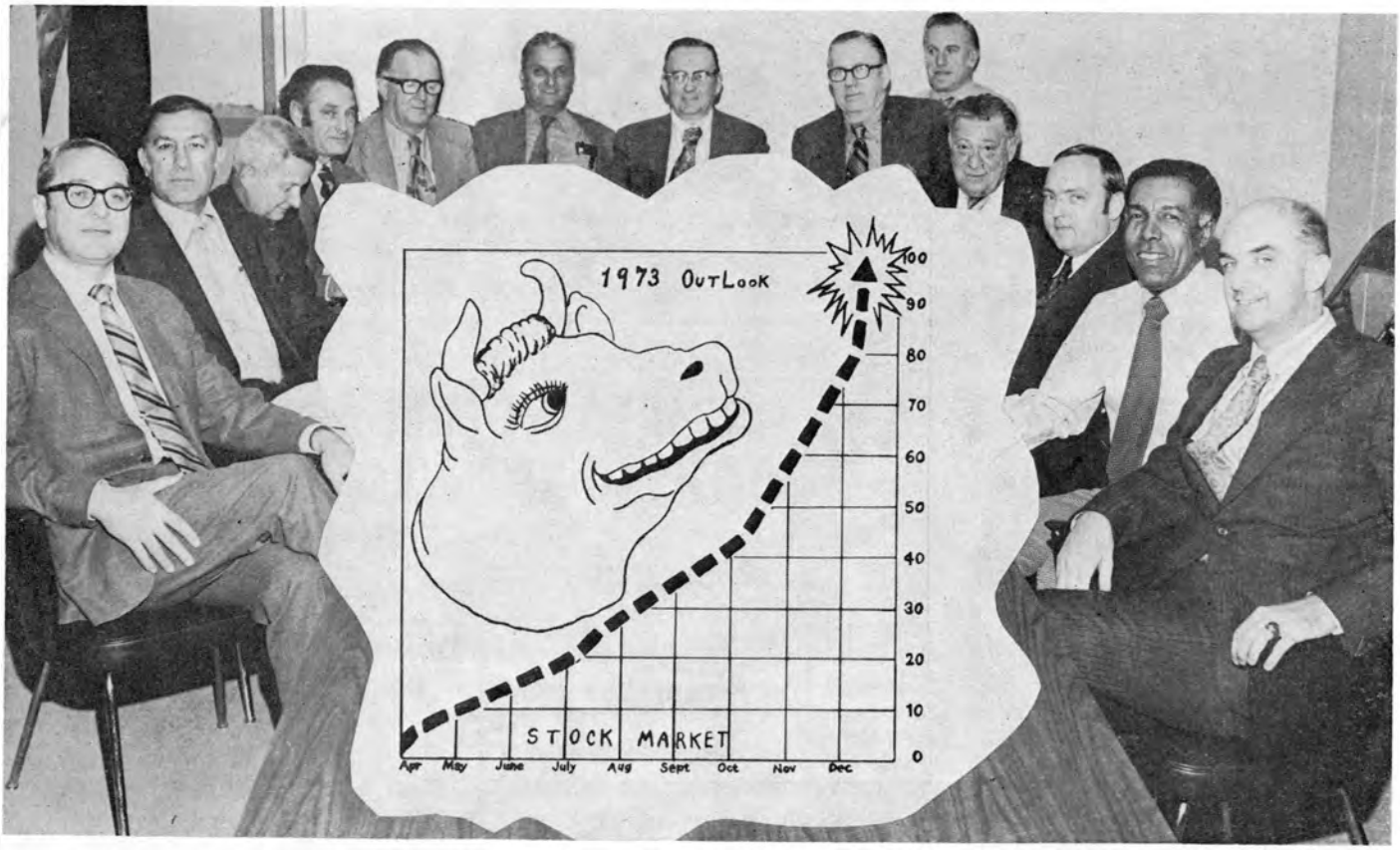
Both time table and costs were fixed in an agreement last June, signed by the City, the State, the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, and the Delaware River Basin Commission.

Plant expansion will cut the percentage of pollution in City effluents that enter the rivers. Removals of biochemical oxygen demand from wastewater will rise from the present 45% to 92% or better at the Southeast and Southwest Plants. Both of these "primary" treatment plants will become "secondary."

At Northeast, B.O.D. removals will climb from 65% to 92%.

These changes will help the city cope with future growth of wastes as population and industry expand. They will thus assure cleaner streams.

**FOREMAN CHARLES TONGUE is an expert rose breeder and is winning every show ribbon in sight. Story on page 6.**




**CHEER UP, ALL YOU INVESTORS! THERE'S A BULL MARKET AHEAD. Knowledgeable members of the Investment Club look so confident that we tried to guess their thoughts. The happy vision above resulted. Left to right, Kenneth Zitomer, Richard Mariani, James Daly, Harry Mallick, Joseph Thompson, Ernest Ferrero, Joseph Radziul, Vincent Hughes, Richard Starr, Barney Palmer, James Coleman, Walter Clark, and Daniel McCusker.**

# *HAPPINESS IS LOSING MONEY WITH A SMILE (Says Investors Club)*

Unknown to many employees, the Water Department has a small Investment Club that maintains a keen interest in the stock market.

Recently, we caught up with Joseph Radziul, assistant treasurer, and asked him how the club was doing. His reaction was typical of investment club officers.

"We are losing money more slowly than any other club in the country," he noted.

"How do you do it?", we asked.

"By being scientific and legal," he emphasized.

He then pointed out that the club was formed four years ago as a partnership under the laws of Pennsylvania. It is limited to 25 members, who put up $10 apiece each pay day to buy a diversified portfolio, ranging from blue chips to fly-by-nights.

A standing investment committee constantly reviews the club's portfolio and contacts brokers for advice. Then the members meet once a month after hours to pool their knowledge, using the SWAG method. SWAG stands for "Scientifically Wild Asinine Guessing," and it is based on the laws of chance.

Sometimes things go wrong.

"We have been known to dispose of some of our best investments at lowest values, and acquire some of our worst investments at peak values," says Mr. Radziul, smiling the banker's smile of confidence.

Despite periodic losses, Mr. Radziul notes that the club has several strong points—

1. "We have a great deal of fun obtaining tax write-offs for the club's losses."

2. "We become better Water Department employees, because we begin to understand one another better when we talk about money."

Many decisions to buy stocks result from "side bar" conferences among two or three members at the monthly meeting, and these then persuade the other members to go along with them. "As a result, we have stocks for which there is no market," comments Mr. Radziul.

Perhaps, the best thing about the club, according to Assistant Treasurer Radziul, is its emphasis on congeniality. This is proved by the fact that the annual installation of officers always takes place at a night club. There was some difficulty, however, in installing officers at the Middle East Club, because belly dancers upset the proceedings.

New officers for 1973, installed in January, include: President, Joseph Thompson: vice president, Edward Shervin; secretary, James Daly; treasurer, Harry Mallick. Mr. Radziul,

(Continued on Page 3)

## WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

*Published Periodically by*

THE WATER DEPARTMENT

*Mayor, Frank L. Rizzo*
*Managing Director, Hillel S. Levinson*
*Deputy Man. Dir., Thomas C. Piccoli*
*Commissioner, Carmen F. Guarino*

Editor .....Raymond J. Harris

*Assistant Editors*

Features .....Rosemary Rosenthal
Recreation .....Edward Boyajian


### INVESTORS CLUB

(Continued from Page 2)

who was 1972 president, now collects all investment funds as assistant treasurer. This is considered a promotion.

Besides Water Department employees, eager investors include several employees of other City departments who joined the club.

Does the club have any advice for outsiders who want to buy stocks?

"If anyone wants to make money," states Assistant Treasurer Radziul, "he should buy what we sell and sell what we buy."

---

**If you want to test your memory try to remember what you were worrying about one year ago today.**

## EDWARD LEWIS DEBUTS AS GUEST CARTOONIST

Drawing cartoons is a hobby for Edward Lewis, a young City employee with an original sense of humor. A management trainee in the City Personnel Department, Ed forgets the daily grind by knocking off a cartoon or two at home.

The *News* is fortunate to present several "Ed Lewis" cartoons, on pages 2, 3 and 6. And we hope to have more in the future.

Desirous of becoming an illustrator, Ed is currently taking evening courses at the Philadelphia College of Art. He is a 1970 graduate of Temple University with a B.S. in communications and journalism.

## COLLEGE OFFERS COURSES IN CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

City employees who have a yen for building things can now learn how to do it. Open to them is an unusual program at the Philadelphia Community College.

Organized and directed by the Department of Streets, the program offers courses in "construction engineering technology." It leads to an associate degree and is intended to prepare City employees for future jobs as construction technicians. The only admission requirement is a high school diploma or the equivalent.

Among members of the faculty are two Water Department employees—Walter H. Clark, chief of the Construction Branch, and Faulkner Edmonds, chief of Drainage Information.

More than 100 students are currently enrolled in the various courses. Costs are nominal: $5 for a semester registration fee and $20 for each course. There are two semesters, autumn and winter.

Current courses include engineering computations, construction contracts and specifications, surveying, strength of materials, engineering drafting, and design of steel structures.

You can enroll for future courses by contacting Michael McNelis, Streets Department personnel officer, tel. ext. 5484.

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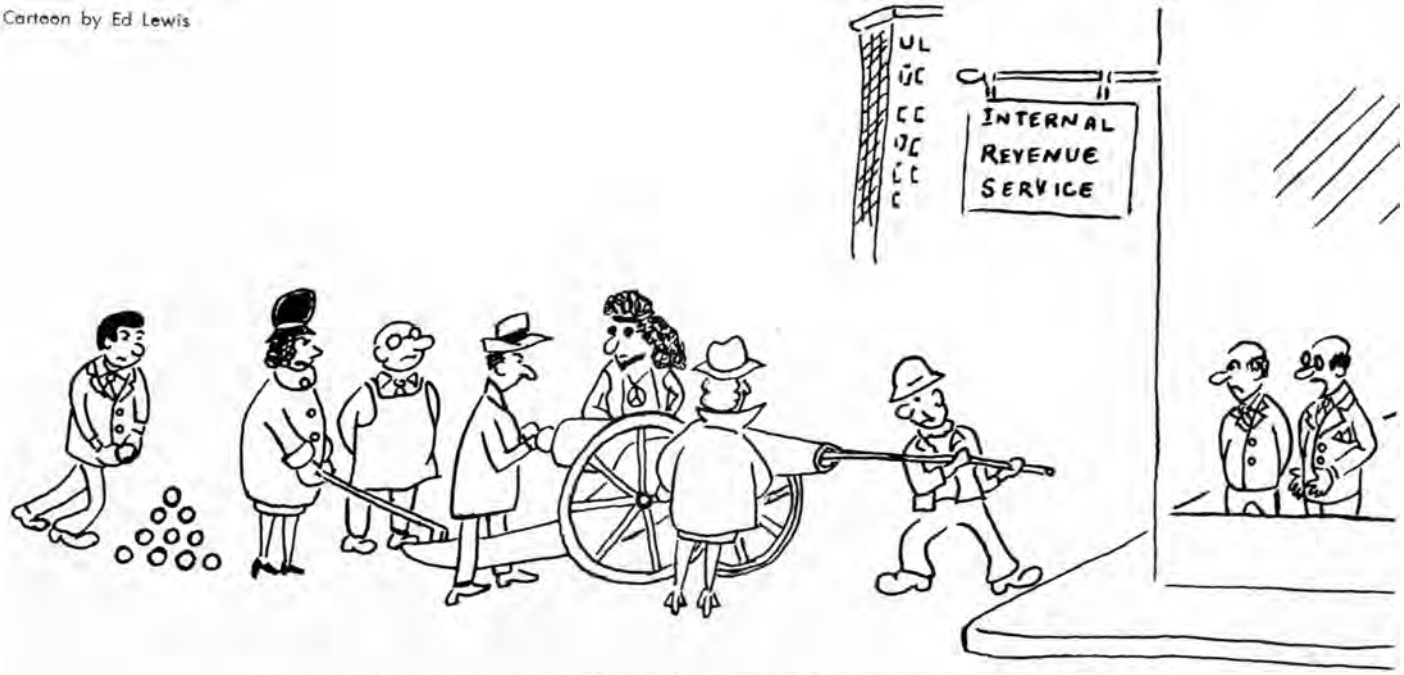
Cartoon by Ed Lewis




**"Of course, I've heard of the tax rebellion, but this is ridiculous!"**

# CITY CITES 14 "SUPER" EMPLOYEES .... ELEVEN WERE NEVER OUT SICK IN 21 YEARS

CHARLES KESSLER

EDWARD S. POTTS

Eleven Water Department employees may be healthier than Olympic stars.

Despite rain and snow and flu epidemics, these employees made it to work every day for 21 years. They took no sick leave from January 1, 1952 through December 31, 1972.

Three other employees have made perfect attendance records for more than 19, 17, and 14 years, respectively.

The reward for such good health, or such conscientiousness, came recently when Deputy Managing Director Thomas C. Piccoli presented engraved desk sets to the 14 employees at a luncheon in their honor at the Philadelphia Engineers' Club. Though modest, the gifts were symbolic recognition of the thousands of man hours which the employees have saved the City.

Several employees, indeed, are reported to have more than the 21 years of perfect attendance with which the department has officially credited them. Among them are Victor A. Pagnotto, chief of Load Control, with 26 years, and Foreman Frank T. Minnich, of Water Distribution, with 27 years.

**Four from Construction**

Other employees with at least 21 years of "no sick leave" include:

*Construction*: Branch Chief Walter H. Clark, Electrical Inspector William M. Powers, and Chief Surveyor Clemens J. Kasperowicz.

WALTER H. CLARK

*Water Pumping*: Oiler Charles Kessler, Station Operator Calvin B. Sasse, and Station Engineer Lyle W. Jacobson. Mr. Jacobson retired last December 31.

*Central Stores*: Equipment Operator Robert C. Harris, Jr.

*Northeast Plant*: Maintenance Supervisor Edward Potts.

*Meter Shop*: Foreman Edward J. Staats.

Other employees include:

*Belmont Plant*: Electrician Rocco

(Continued on Page 9)

LYLE W. JACOBSON

CLEMENS J. KASPEROWICZ

ROCCO D. GUERRIERO

# PAGES 4, 5 .... A SICK LEAVE GALLERY OF HONOR

DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR Thomas C. Piccoli (left) congratulates Victor A. Pagnotto, chief of Load Control, who completed 26 years without taking a day of sick leave. Pagnotto holds gift box, containing pen set and holder, awarded by the Water Department.

WILLIAM M. POWERS

FRANK T. MINNICH

ROBERT C. HARRIS, JR.

EDWARD J. STAATS

JOHN H. BERNINGER

# CHARLES TONGUE WINS STACKS OF RIBBONS BUT DREAMS OF BREEDING $200,000 ROSE

Charles Tongue is not the type of man you would suspect of growing roses.

A foreman in Building Maintenance, he is six feet two and weighs 200 pounds of muscle. He can toss a fire hydrant or valve around as lightly as a feather.

Employed by the Water Department since 1955, Charles Tongue does a lot of rugged work. He dismantles boilers, loads heavy equipment, installs piping, and repairs pumps.

There is more to Charlie Tongue, however, than muscles. He has a special flair. He is one of Philadelphia's most talented growers of prize roses, and he has won more ribbons at rose shows than his chest can hold.

How does a good natured chap with a background in welding and rigging become interested in roses? "It was the challenge," states Charlie. "I began visiting rose shows 17 years ago, and suddenly I wanted to see if I could grow finer roses than anyone else."

Reading everything about roses that he could lay his hands on, Charlie began experimenting. Every spring and summer found him in his garden, removing petals from new buds, snipping anthers, collecting pollen, and pollinating stigmas, to develop improved qualities in his roses. In some years, he raised up to 500 seedlings to obtain a few prize winning roses.

### Won Queen of Show Prizes

Soon Charlie Tongue was collecting ribbons. Only five years after he started, he won the first and third "Queen of the Show" prizes at the Germantown Rose Show, and his success has spread to other shows.

Competing against more than 50 exhibitors at the Burholme Rose Show in June, 1971, Charlie made a grand sweep. He won the Gold and Silver Medal Certificates (the two top prizes of the entire show), plus the fourth show prize, plus five first, two second, and two third prize ribbons in various classes. The Gold Medal Certificate was awarded him for a magnificent light pink rose of the "Royal Highness" type.

At the larger Philadelphia Rose Show, which attracts exhibitors from several states, Charlie recently won four first prizes, two third prizes, and one honorable mention, in different classes. Much to the consternation of New Jersey residents, he has carried off nine or 10 ribbons at a time from the West Jersey Rose Show.

**CHARLES TONGUE notes the fine points in one of his specially bred roses. A winner of top medals at rose shows, muscular Charles Tongue is an ex-marine who bosses a maintenance crew for the Water Department.**

To win a ribbon at a rose show is not easy. Roses are judged on color, vigor, fragrance, substance, stem, and amount of bloom, among other things. The competing rose, if it is to have a chance, may not be deficient in any of these qualities, and it must have class. "A really fine show rose has to be symmetrical, with its petals unfurling from a high center," comments Charlie, who has developed an eye for such things.

Although he "likes the competition" at shows, Charles Tongue admits that he is gunning for more than ribbons. He notes that some hybridizers raise as many as 10,000 seedlings to get one perfect rose from which other roses can be grown. One such prototype rose may be worth up to $200,000 on the market.

"Last year I thought I had a bud of that quality, because of its symmetry and color," said Charlie, "but the stem proved to be too weak." He is now trying to develop a better stem from seedlings of that promising bud.

Charlie may or may not grow a $200,000 rose, but meanwhile he is receiving a lot of admiration. Among admiring neighbors is Tony Zecca, Deputy to Mayor Rizzo. Mr. Zecca frequently brings his guests over to see Charlie's roses.

Charlie, it seems, is in roses with his neighbors. At home, however, there is less enthusiasm for his long hours in the garden. "My wife complains that I am married to my roses," he grins.

### PLAN CANCER TALKS

*Cancer education sessions for 7,500 male employees of the City are being held this spring. The 100 sessions are sponsored by the City Health Department and the American Cancer Society.*

*Employees will be able to attend a one hour session, that will include a film viewing and a talk by a physician.*

Cartoon by Ed Lewis


**"Probably the only safe airline in the country. It's owned and operated by sky jackers."**

**POPULAR SAMUEL COSTELLO, retiring after 43 years, gives farewell embrace to co-worker, Mrs. Marion Redfield, in Construction. Costello was assistant division engineer.**

## CHESS WAR BREAKS OUT - SURVIVORS TO GET SPOILS

The chess war has come again to City departments, and Bobby Fischer didn't start it.

City employees are now battling it out, five games per person, to decide who will go into the semi-finals. The employees are enrolled in three different competitive classes, "fair," "good," and "excellent", according to their own estimate of their abilities.

Five lucky persons in each class will go into the semi-finals to determine the winner for each class. Trophies will probably be handed out late this spring.

The chess competition is sponsored by the City Employees' Recreation Council. An interdepartmental committee, which includes John Spitko and Edward Boyajian from the Water Department, is directing the contest.

# 43 WORKERS RETIRE — ZEHNDER HAD 45 YEARS

Many familiar faces are vanishing from the Water Department as employees reach retirement age. In less than a year, the department has lost 43 employees.

Among more recent retirees is Carl Zehnder, who holds the record (45 years) for length of service in this group. Mr. Zehnder, who is 66 years old, was a station engineer in the Water Pumping Division.

Closely following him in point of service were Samuel Costello, assistant division engineer, Construction, and Robert A. Pogue, 65, a storekeeper in Central Stores—both with 43 years. Mr. Pogue died soon after retirement.

Two 38-year employees were Harry T. Leeser, 64, a pumping station engineer, and Samuel Cirelli, 64, Torresdale filtration supervisor.

In the Design Branch, Michael Rocco, the affable assistant chief of that branch, hung up his slide rule after 34 years. Mickey studied civil engineering at Drexel University and was a registered professional engineer.

Other retirees, listed by approximate length of service, are:

*33 Years*: Michael DiGuglielmi, 57, a water pumping station operator.

*32 Years*: Harry W. Ridge, 69, a civil engineer II in Construction.

*29 Years*: Anthony DiStefano, 64, a water pumping station engineer; and Harry Schmitt, 62, an equipment operator I at the Northeast Plant.

*27 Years*: Joseph T. McKenna, 64, a public works inspector II in Construction; and Francis O'Keefe, 64, a water pumping station operator.

*26 Years*: Arthur J. Jones, 55, a heavy equipment operator I in Inlet Cleaning; Henry T. Fields, 62, and Joseph Boston, 57, both equipment operators II in Distribution.

*25 Years*: Joseph Bottino, 62, a watchman at the Northeast Plant; Anthony Piscitello, 58, a clerk II at the Meter Shop; Eugene Vicario, 57, an electrician in Building Maintenance; and Harry P. Catiline, 62, a filter plant mechanic II at the Torresdale Plant.

*24 Years*: Archie J. Reeves, 66, a public works inspector I and David W. Humphreys, 62, a public works inspector II, in the Construction Branch; Morris Pirolli, 56, a foreman in Distribution; and Charles D. Leidy, 62, a heavy equipment operator I in Inlet Cleaning.

*23 Years*: Lyle Jacobson, 66, a water pumping station engineer.

*22 Years*: David Bowman, 64, a trades helper, and Augustine Coppola, 63, a painter II, in Building Maintenance.

*21 Years*: George W. Scott, 62, an automotive driver for the Materials Testing Laboratory; John Harley, 57, an equipment operator I in Distribution; and John E. Nottingham, 57, a laborer at the Queen Lane Plant.

*20 Years*: Allen Benson, 67, of the Southeast Plant, and Raymond F. Finnen, 62, of the Queen Lane Plant, both treatment plant operators I.

*19 Years*: James Colquitt, Jr., 62, an equipment operator I, and Peter A. Flood, 59, a field representative, both in Distribution; and Ernest Minor, 58, a custodial worker I at the Northeast Plant.

*18 Years*: Robert Huebner, 55, a clerk-typist II at the Northeast Plant; and John V. Flanagan, 64, a maintenance foreman at the Southeast Plant.

*17 Years*: Lloyd Coleman, 47, a custodial worker I, and Thomas H. Landenberger, 67, an operator I, at the Belmont Plant; and Herbert Courtney, 64, a mechanic helper at the Queen Lane Plant.

*12 Years*: John B. Webb, 55, an operator I at the Torresdale Plant; and Zed T. Black, 49, an equipment operator I in Sewer Maintenance.

Donald R. Randall, sanitary engineer II and former superintendent of the Northeast Plant, retired last autumn after a long illness. He died soon afterwards. Mr. Randall had completed more than 20 years of municipal service.

# WOMEN'S LIBBER IS DEVOTED ARCHITECT

Gloria Steinem — Betty Friedan — Bella Abzug. These people come to mind as we speak with Marilyn Kagan, who supports the women's liberation movement. Marilyn is an engineering aide III in our Design Branch, but stresses the fact that she is actually an architect—not an engineer—and please, don't confuse the two.

Marilyn was born in Providence, R.I., and studied liberal arts for two years at the University of Rhode Island, then spent another two years at the Rhode Island School of Design. Later she moved to Philadelphia and started Drexel night school—graduating after nine years, last June. She was awarded a bachelor of science degree, with a major in architecture.

Marilyn worked as an architectural draftsman and designer for George M. Ewing Company, Vincent G. Kling and Associates, and Urban Engineers. She was also employed by the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority for 10 years, doing map drafting, field surveys, design, etc., and then took a job at $40 a week less, just to get more experience.

Marilyn came to the Design Branch over a year ago, after winning first place among 22 persons who took the Engineering Aide III test. After a full day at the office and attending night school at the same time, there were many nights she did not get to sleep at all, because she was busy preparing drawings for architectural juries.

### Studied Sewer at Night

She started in sewer design, and it was typical of her eagerness to learn, that when Pine Street (where she lives) was torn up and a new sewer built, she would go outside in the evening with her scale and study the sewer and check its progress. Inevitably the neighbors would gather around and ask her questions.

One of Marilyn's hobbies is to travel and to look at and study buildings; she also tries the foods of different lands and then tries to duplicate them when she returns home. In 1969 she went to Itanbul and then to Greece and was enthralled with the Acropolis. She has also visited Israel, Vienna, Switzerland, and taken a sketching trip through Italy. She paints portraits and landscapes.

## *Our Career Women*

BARBARA SETKOWSKY

MARILYN KAGAN

Marilyn attends the American Institute of Architecture meetings and belongs to the National Organization of Women for Professional Women.

She recently lost two cats, who died at ages 13 and 15. Were they male or female? We didn't ask.

**Rosemary Rosenthal**

# EX-MODEL WIELDS SMART SLIDE RULE

She's only been with the Design Branch—as an engineering aide I—for less than a year, but in that short time her loveliness, charm and beauty shone through enough for her to be chosen as the Water Department representative for United Fund's "Miss Torch."

Barbara Setkowsky graduated from High School in Newtown, Bucks County, has majored in art, and also went to night school for four years, taking up carpentry. There was only one other girl in the class, but Barbara is very good with her hands and carpentry is still her hobby. She works with unusual woods, making very unusual ornaments that she gives away as gifts to special friends.

Barbara also attended the Philadelphia Career School, where she learned modeling; later modeled clothes herself and then taught other girls how to model. It all became too hard for her—plus other demands made on her that she didn't approve of, so she stopped modeling.

### Beauty Contest Runner-up

In 1970, Barbara was first runner-up in the Miss Philadelphia contest. She also tied for first place for a Miss Lithuania contest. She contends she will not enter any more beauty contests as it is too much of a let-down being a runner-up and it means nothing. She also was runner-up for Miss U.F. Torch for the City.

With all her talents and athletic prowess, she also has a "green" thumb and has a real vegetable garden on the window sill at her office. They once had a string bean party with all the string beans she "harvested," and she has also grown watermelon, carrots, beets, etc., etc.

Barbara is just 23 years old—has no boy friends at present—they also are too self-centered and demanding, but it is her ambition to be an EA III in art and design, and with her many attributes, we know that someday some fine Prince Charming will come along and make a good and rewarding life for her that is better than any beauty contests.

**Rosemary Rosenthal**

A nickel goes a long ways these days—you can carry one for days before finding something it will buy.

**MANAGING DIRECTOR Hillel S. Levinson (left) presents medals and certificates to two City employees for efficiency-improving suggestions. Torresdale Plant employee John Horger (right) received a $25 check. At the same ceremony, Walter Stewart (center), of the Recreation Department, received $250 for a $5,000 labor-saving idea.**

# EASLEY AND HORGER WIN CASH $$$ FOR IDEAS THAT BETTER OPERATIONS

Because of a couple of good ideas, John Easley is $60 richer and John Horger $25 better off. Managing Director Hillel S. Levinson presented the checks to them in a City Hall ceremony.

Through the City's suggestion system, John Easley, a foreman at the Southwest Plant, offered an idea that solved a recurring problem.

Mr. Easley had long worried about the hand gates that are used to regulate the flow of sewage into and out of tanks at the Southwest Plant. Opening the gates meant pulling them out of their slots and laying them on a catwalk between tanks. Sometimes the gates fell into the tanks, damaging equipment; they could be recovered only by draining the tanks.

Mr. Easley suggested a method for pulling up the gates, tilting them and locking them into place in the slots. All it took was a plate and some nuts and bolts. Results: $600 a year saved at the three water pollution control plants.

John Horger, an instrumentation technician II at the Torresdale Plant, suggested that the "loss of head" indicators on the filter consoles be painted red (instead of black) to distinguish them from the "rate of flow" indicators. This simple idea has made it easier for the plant operator to take readings.

## SICK LEAVE RECORD

(Continued from Page 4)

D. Guerriero, with 19 years.

*Water Distribution*: Equipment Operator Leonard H. Moss, with 17 years.

*Construction*: Engineering Aide John H. Berninger, 14 years.

## PROMOTIONS

(Continued from Page 11)

H. Isaac, from chemist I to II.

*Others*: Gabriel J. Morelli, from trades helper to maintenance mechanic I, Plant Maintenance; Isaac Albright, from laborer to semi-skilled laborer, Building Maintenance; Perry Wallace, from serviceman to trades helper, Automotive Maintenance; Joseph G. McAdams, from water meter repairman I to II, Meter Shop; John Terembula, from field Inspector I to field representative, Customer Service; Andrew Peters, from electrical engineer II to staff engineer I, Load Control; and Frances Bruchbocker, from engineering aide II to III, Water Operations (main office). Patrick Cairo, of Research and Development, won a two-step promotion from graduate engineer to sanitary engineer II.

# NEW MATHEMATICIANS AID STREAM AND OCEAN STUDIES

The Research and Development Unit has recently obtained some timely help. It has hired two young mathematicians to help it with its studies of engineering models, river parameters, oceanic sites, new plants, automation, and other complex mathematical problems.

One of the new mathematicians is Michael Pence, shown left above. Mike is a remarkable young man, who can do the most complex mathematical problems on the typewriter.

Mike is a June, 1972, graduate of the University of Illinois, with a B.S. in mathematics.

Peter McLoone (in background above, took his B.A. in mathematics at LaSalle College in 1970. He received an M.S. in mathematics at Drexel University last year.

# NAME WARREN BUSH SEWER COORDINATOR AS 94 WATER EMPLOYEES ARE PROMOTED

Welcome promotions have been won by 94 employees, both veterans and freshmen, since last spring.

Typical of the hard working veterans are Warren Bush and Domenic Guglielmi.

Warren Bush, who has been with the department for 18 years, has been named coordinator, or assistant chief, of the collector system. Under his watchful eye will come sewers and inlets throughout the city.

Warren brings much experience to his job. He worked his way up through the department's civil engineering ranks, has received "outstanding" civil service ratings, and is an engineering graduate of the U.S. Army Air Corps (World War II). He has taken engineering courses at West Virginia, Wesleyan and Drexel Universities.

Domenic Guglielmi, who reports to Warren Bush, will keep 75,000 sewer inlets free and flowing. Noted for his past abilities in doing this, he has been promoted from public works inspector II to inlet cleaning superintendent. He has been with the City since 1956.

Typical of the earnest younger employees is William Wankoff, who jumped from civil engineer I to sanitary engineer II. Although barely 27 years old, Bill Wankoff supervises the Northeast Plant, one of the biggest wastewater plants in the country.

Bill holds two degrees from Drexel University, a B.S. in civil engineering (1968) and a master's degree in environmental engineering (1970).

Another promotion was that of John Catalano, who won a department commendation last June for his timely aid to flooded industries and businesses. Mr. Catalano, a 15-year employee, was promoted from assistant supervisor to supervisor in Distribution.

Space unfortunately allows the *News* to list only the names of the many other deserving employees who have been promoted.

### List of Promotions

*Design*: Thomas J. Hickey, III, from mechanical engineer I to II; Gerald T. Hyams, from graduate engineer to electrical engineer I; Zafar Ali Khilji, Thomas Weber, and Kenneth Cox, from graduate engineer to civil engineer I; Edward Vernick, Joseph Graci, and Kevin Nomenec, from civil engineer I to II; and Joseph Carter, from engineering aide I to II.

**WARREN BUSH**
**Asst. Chief, Collectors**

*Construction*: Erwin L. Huber and James R. Gallagher, from civil engineer II to construction engineer I; Albert Kerns, from mechanical equipment inspector to construction projects technician III; and William O'Meara, from public works inspector II to construction projects technician III.

*Water Pollution Control Administration*: Stephen E. Schuyler and Michael B. Maher, from graduate engineer to sanitary engineer I; Thomas F. Healey, from sanitary engineer I to II; Bernard Brunwasser, from management trainee to administrative services officer I.

*Inlet Cleaning*: Charles Slaughter, from excavation foreman to assistant superintendent; Douglas McCoy, from heavy equipment operator I to inlet cleaning supervisor; Richard Wiggins, from labor foreman II to inlet cleaning supervisor; Claude Brown, from labor foreman I to II; Samuel L. Jenkins and Mervin Moye, from labor sub-foreman to labor foreman II; William Price, from equipment operator I to labor foreman I; Thomas Council and Harvey Caldwell, from laborer to equipment operator I.

(Continued on Page 11)

**CLAUDE BROWN**
**Labor Foreman II**

**SHELDON H. ISAAC**
**Chemist II**

**DOMENIC GUGLIELMI**
**Supt., Inlet Cleaning**

## 94 PROMOTED

(*Continued from Page* 10)

*Sewer Maintenance*: Paul D. Sojourner, from custodial worker I to laborer; Huey L. Pigford, Edward J. Fisher, and Wayne G. Hill, from automotive driver to equipment operator I; George Wright, from laborer to equipment operator I; and Cyrus Gordon, from laborer to semi-skilled laborer.

*Water Pollution Control Plants*: Emanuel Johnson, from engineering aide I to labor sub-foreman at Southeast Plant, and all the following at Northeast Plant—Maurice Cameron, from mechanical engineer II to staff engineer I; Robert Serpente, from graduate engineer to mechanical engineer I; Henry Cosby, from plant helper I to treatment plant operator I; Bernard C. Burse, from labor subforeman to foreman I; and John J. Hoeffler, from maintenance mechanic I to II.

*Water Treatment Plants*: John A. Rossi and Francis Coulter, Jr., (Belmont), from graduate engineer to sanitary engineer I; Nance D. Kunz (Queen Lane), from graduate engineer to sanitary engineer I; and Earl Jenkins (Queen Lane), from mechanic helper to treatment plant operator.

*Water Pumping*: William P. Spittle, from stationary fireman to station engineer; and Henry W. Rielly, from maintenance mechanic I to electrician.

*Distribution*: Elijah Neuson, from maintenance mechanic I to welder; Kathleen Fain, from Clerk I to II; Bobby Moore, from equipment operator I to heavy equipment operator I; Willis Robinson, equipment operator I to II; Vincent Wright and James Donovan, from semi-skilled laborer to equipment operator I; Eddie Reed and Ervin McDuffie, from laborer to equipment operator I; Edward S. Sarin and Charles Sparks, from emergency repairman to foreman; Arthur Lee and Stephen Adamof, from repairman to foreman; Clarence Driggins and Mack Little, from repairman to emergency repairman; Clinton Zeigler, David Williams, Jr., William Miller, John Tartt, and John Miller, from repairman helper to repairman; Ralph Mongelluzzo, from foreman to assistant supervisor; Alfonzo Fortune, from custodial worker I to repairman helper; Lewis Willis, Joseph Sellers, and Arthur Gaines, from laborer to repairman helper; and John Rhines, from equipment operator I to water main equipment mechanic.

*Engineering Computer Center*: Sandor Kovacs, from mechanical engineer II to engineering supervisor I; and Marcia Wagner, from sanitary engineer I to II.

*General Administration*: Michael Augustyn, from social worker welfare trainee to management trainee; and Dorothy Hammond, from clerk-typist I to II.

*Materials Testing Laboratory*: Thomas Wilson, from custodial worker I to automotive driver; Barbara McGough, from laboratory technician to chemistry technician; and Sheldon

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## Move Up

**SAMUEL L. JENKINS**
**Labor Foreman II**

**PATRICK CAIRO**
**Sanitary Engineer II**

## BRAVE ADVENTURERS SHOOT RIVER RAPIDS

The Youghiogheny River near Ohiopyle, Fayette County, was the scene of a true-life adventure last August as a group of fearless Water Department employees and their friends took on some of the wildest white water in this part of the country. The expedition, under the direction of Sir John Spitko, forewent the usual custom of self-reliance and entrusted itself to a group of native guides claiming to have full knowledge of this treacherous but beautiful river.

Sir John, of the Torresdale Quality Control Laboratory, made the first known Water Department passage of this river with a band of R & D engineers in the Fall of '71. Since that time, plans for a second expedition had been underway. This second epic journey, lasting a gruelling six hours, was undertaken by the same seasoned boatmen/engineers from the R & D Unit and by several chemists/biologists from the Torresdale Laboratory.

### No Casualties

The beauty of the scenic Youghiogheny was not the sole breath-taking experience during the journey. Fearless courage and sheer endurance were the by-words as the crew, battered in their rubber boats, were spirited through rapids and swept over falls. Miraculously, but as foretold by the native guides, there were no casualties, and the 7-½ mile trip was termed a "striking success" by the Manayunk Geological Society. Surely, names such as Spitko, McGuire, Sullivan, Silver, and Weber are emblazoned upon the Youghiogheny Valley for years to come.

Those interested adventurers among us can now follow the exciting route of John Spitko. Professionally guided tours regularly shoot the Youghiogheny in four-man rubber boats while the avid sportsmen challenge the raging river in white water canoes. If you're seriously interested in taking a raft trip down this wild, natural river, explore the many state and private facilities near Ohiopyle. Inquiries can be directed to the Fayette County Development Council, 74 East Main Street, Uniontown, Pa. 15401 (412-438-3522).

**Edward Boyajian**

# Ancient Water Systems

**By Editor Ray Harris**

I shall never forget the thrill I got, when standing outside the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, I asked my guide about some perforated stone blocks. "Oh, those formed part of the aqueduct built by King Solomon," he replied.

The blocks were squarish, with round holes in the middle and recessed joints. Measuring about 2 ft. high x 2 ft. wide x 1 ft. long, they were so short that it would have taken thousands of them to form an aqueduct.

The next day I saw another of these blocks in a small Moslem cemetery alongside Rachel's tomb near Bethlehem. I learned that there were many such blocks scattered between Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

Unhappily, the blocks had not been made by King Solomon. They had been used (I later learned) by the Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, to reinforce a pipeline which he had laid from a high reservoir near Hebron to Jerusalem.

This aqueduct was one of the famed siphon pipelines which the Greeks had invented. Atmospheric pressure at the water source forced the flow over intervening hills and valleys until it reached 2,500-ft. high Jerusalem. Because the pipeline ran straight and true, the water pressure in the valleys was tremendous. To keep the pipe (which may have been of lead) from bursting or moving, it was encased at valley crossings in stone reinforcing blocks.

The aqueduct entered Jerusalem along the western ridge of the city and may have supplied the palace and gardens of deceased King Herod. One may still climb a great tower of Herod's palace and look across the roof tops of the city to the Temple Mount and the golden Dome of the Rock.

**KING HEROD built this aqueduct to bring water to Caesarea.**

The pipeline of Pontius Pilate has long since been broken and scattered. An older aqueduct, however—centuries older, it is reported—still brings water from the Pools of Solomon at Bethlehem to fill the basins around the Temple Mount. Could Solomon have built that aqueduct? No one can say.

### Cisterns of Masada

My bus took me south through the green hills of Judea, past Bethlehem and Hebron, and then through a wasteland of broken rock, and finally into the great flat plain of Beersheba. The fertile brown acres stretched for miles in every direction, with a little patch of green here and there. In the spring, I thought, the plain must be a riot of green color with growing wheat.

Turning eastward, we passed through country that became drier and drier, relieved only by an occasional black tent of the Bedouin. We climbed a dusty hill to Avdat, where lay the ruins of an ancient Nabatean town.

The Nabateans, who flourished for a thousand years, first as independent traders and then under Roman rule, had survived in this desert by catching every drop of rain and leading the water skillfully over their fields. Inside Avdat, a city of paved streets and fine public buildings, were deep cisterns into which the inhabitants had channeled the rainfall. Wandering through the ruins, I noticed a clay house sewer—evidence of advanced drainage methods.

Turning eastward again, the bus moved into the mountains, which were brown and forbidding and where scarcely a blade of grass grew. The heat rose with each mile. Even though it was November, this country could spell death for the lone traveler.

At last the bus emerged on the western side of a mountain, and there across a deep valley was the flat-topped mountain of Masada, set against the blue waters of the Dead Sea. Even at that distance, one could see the ruins on top of Masada and the great earthen ramp which the Romans had thrown up on its western side. On the northwest face of Masada were some curious square holes.

From the foot of the earthen ramp, Masada looked even more dizzying in height. Its top was 2,400 feet above the Dead Sea, and several hundred feet above the western ravine. The climb up the ramp, however, is an easy one for most tourists, and when one emerges on top the cool breezes make the spot pleasant.

From the top of Masada, the view is so breath taking—across the waters of the Dead Sea to the hazy blue hills of Moab and the anvil-shaped peninsula of the Lisan, that one almost forgets the purpose of the visit.

Masada was King Herod's winter resort and his place of refuge. He built two fine palaces on top, one of which hangs in three tiers for 100 feet down the northern cliff. In the northern palace, some of the columns and the brightly decorated plaster walls are still partially intact. There were large storehouses and the top was ringed by a casemate wall (two walls partitioned into sections).

It was to Masada that Herod frequently invited high-placed Roman guests. For their comfort and his own, he constructed a swimming pool and elaborate Roman baths.

The steam bath was of special interest. Hot air from an oven was conducted beneath a mosaic floor, supported by short columns of round bricks, and then the air passed up square pipes (or flues) of clay, set in the walls, and escaped through vents into the room. Steam was created by throwing water on the floor. This principle of radiant heating was afterwards applied by the Romans to their villas in Britain to keep them warm in the winter.

The flat top of Masada is brown and austere today, but Herod cultivated a garden which made it green and pleasant.

How did Herod obtain water for his baths and his garden in a desert where the sea is salty and less than an inch of rain falls each year?

Herod's engineers took advantage of a simple fact of nature. Though it rains seldom around Masada, the rain pours rapidly from the naked mountains, collecting in "wadies" (or gulleys) and building up into raging floods.

The engineers, therefore, built dams in the wadies on the north and south sides of Masada, cut apertures

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## ANCIENT WATER SYSTEMS

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into the northwest face of the mountain, and hollowed out great cisterns inside the mountain. When flash floods hit the dams, the water rose until it spilled into open stone channels that led to the apertures. Within a few hours, the cisterns were brimming with more than 10 million gallons of water. Afterwards, the water was carried by donkey or man to a set of upper cisterns.

### Water Tunnel of Megiddo

There were no tours to Megiddo in November, and so I caught a bus in Haifa which took me around to the back of Mt. Carmel. I almost overshot the ancient ruins, but a blue-eyed Druze, the descendant of some Christian crusader, told me where to alight.

Megiddo rises 70 feet above the surrounding plain, an artificial hill that slowly grew as 20 cities rose and fell on the site. Situated at the head of a mountain pass, the city commanded the road that came up from the coast to the Valley of Jezreel and the hills of Galilee. So many mighty battles were fought for the city, that the Book of Revelation predicts that the last battle of Armageddon will take place there.

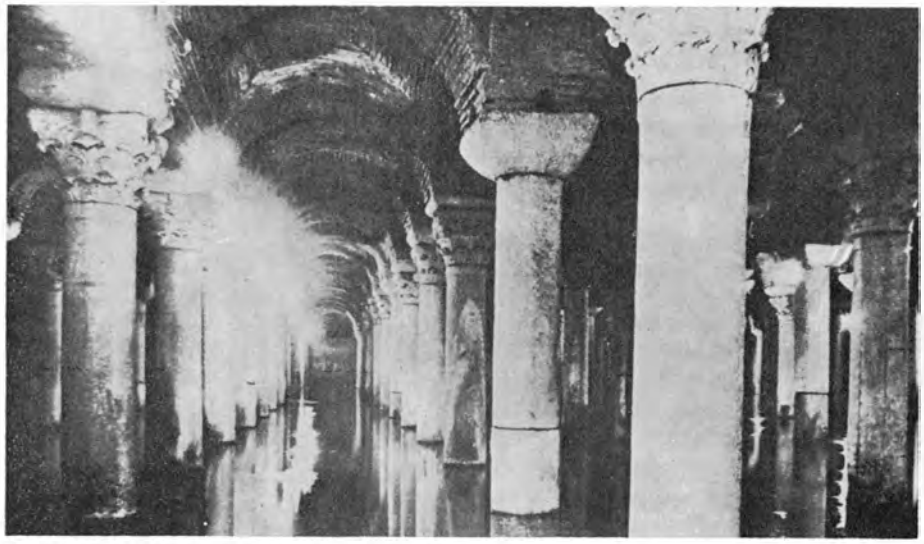
I thought little of Armageddon, as I caught the view from the top. To the east stretched the green, fertile Valley of Jezreel, which the Israelis have turned into a garden after centuries of neglect. To the northeast were the high hills of Galilee. It was one of the loveliest sights.

After 3,000 years, Megiddo ceased to exist as a city about 300 B.C. In this century, many archeologists have worked over the site and made remarkable discoveries.

There are gateways and walls, some from the days of King Solomon . . . the remains of a large governor's palace . . . and, in a deep cut, the remnants of three temples dating to the second millenium B.C. Much excellent ivory work has been removed to museums.

Megiddo was one of King Solomon's chariot cities. Walking across the top, I came upon stone pillars that supported the roofs of stables and doubled as hitching posts. There were also limestone managers, and nearby a stone-lined granary set deep in the rubble.

Two large groups of stables, housing 450 horses, have been uncovered at Megiddo. Thus the city must have fielded over 200 two-horse chariots.



**THIS COLUMNED reservoir in Istanbul held 30 million gallons of water for the palace of the Byzantine emperors.**

The stables date to the time of King Ahab in the 9th century B.C.; those of Solomon have disappeared.

There was plenty of water at Megiddo for thirsty horses and inhabitants. At the west side of the mound is a vast crater. This is the shaft that goes down 120 feet to an ancient water tunnel.

The Israelis have thoughtfully lighted and ventilated the tunnel and built a wooden walkway through it. They have also thoughtfully posted a sign at the top of the shaft, indicating the number of steps down (about 200) and the number of steps up the other side (about 80).

I descended and found an egg-shaped tunnel cut out of the living rock. About 11 feet in diameter, it reaches for 215 feet to a point beyond the city wall. In ancient times, it brought water from a hidden spring to a cistern inside the city. As city succeeded city, however, the staircase to the tunnel became deeper.

There are signs that the tunnel was cut by two work gangs from opposite ends. When they came together, their tubes were only a few inches off line vertically (it is reported) and two feet laterally. The tunnel dates to the 9th century B.C. Under King Solomon—a century earlier—the inhabitants walked to the spring through a sloping shaft.

### Aqueducts of Istanbul

The bellboys at the Istanbul Hilton must have thought me extravagant, for I kept them running to my room with five-cent bottles of "pure spring" water.

Had I been visiting Istanbul in ancient times, I would not have insisted on bottled water. Constantinople (as Istanbul was then called) had one of the finest water systems in the Roman world.

My first glimpse of this system came when I passed through the great land walls of the city, on my way from the airport. The walls, built in 413 A.D., stretch for more than four miles from the inlet of the Golden Horn to the Sea of Marmara. Behind these walls and their massive towers lived a half-million inhabitants in the sixth century.

My taxi moved through the walls and through the maddening traffic of the city. Thousands of old cars (some of them museum pieces) were belching smoke, tooting horns, and sending pedestrians scrambling for their lives. My driver smiled proudly at this "modern" traffic, but even more proudly when a tall Roman aqueduct loomed across the avenue. This was the stone aqueduct built by Emperor Valens in the latter part of the fourth century.

Valens' aqueduct started in the distant hills and ran underground until it passed the city walls. In the midst of the city it emerged from the hill on which the Church of the Holy Apostles stood, and continued as a channel supported by stone arches. Rising in two tiers to a height of 100 feet, the arches continued for 700 feet to another hill where they emptied their flow into great open cisterns.

Constantinople had other aqueducts. Most Roman aqueducts were of the gravity flow rather than

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## ANCIENT WATER SYSTEMS

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the siphon type. The Romans preferred to lead water down gradually from the hills to prevent channel erosion and to keep pipes from bursting.

The aqueducts of Constantinople distributed water to many public fountains and to innumerable underground cisterns in houses, monasteries, and public buildings. The water supply was so plentiful that the city offered a "free" bath once a week to certain types of foreign visitors.

Much water, of course, was consumed in the imperial section of the city. There were located the hippodrome, the church of Santa Sophia, the senate house, and the many buildings and gardens of the palace.

Of all these public monuments, Santa Sophia (or Aya Sofya) is almost the only one still intact. Built by the Emperor Justinian in 532-37 A.D., the church stands today at the eastern end of a flowered park.

Though touched by time, the high dome and golden mosaics of Santa Sophia still fill the visitor with the breath of beauty. I wandered repeatedly through the vast basilica, where graceful columns from Ephesus, with lacework capitals, support the upper balconies, and inscriptions from the Koran (placed there by Moslems) speak of a later past.

Close by Santa Sophia, at a busy intersection, is a public work that would delight the heart of any water works engineer. A staircase leads down to it, and I followed it to the depths. There I came out on a lighted platform.

Glistening in the light and receding gradually into the darkness was a great reservoir. Its roof of bricks, shaped into graceful vaulting, was supported by 336 marble columns, most of them taken from ancient temples. The columns, with their ornate capitals, make this one of the most elegant reservoirs ever built by man.

Constructed by Philoxenus for Emperor Justinian in the sixth century, the reservoir received water from the aqueducts of Valens and Hadrian. Its 30 million gallons provided an emergency supply for the palace in time of siege. Today the reservoir is filled with sediment and rain water swept in by storms.

Gone is the Byzantine palace which the reservoir supplied. Only a few windows of white stone and wall fragments of brick still peer across the Sea of Marmara.

I have read that at the other end of the flowered park, near the ancient hippodrome, is another columned reservoir. Its waters once slaked the thirst of sweating horses and charioteers. Today the surface of the hippodrome lies beneath a tree lined, elliptical drive. Only a few stones and three historic columns still witness to its triumphs.

Beside the hippodrome is the monument of another age—the Blue Mosque of the Sultan Ahmed. Looking like a vision from the Arabian Nights, the mosque rises dome above dome, surrounded by six minarets. Its interior walls are covered with blue tiles, and stained glass windows look toward Mecca.

I took off my shoes and entered the mosque with the other tourists, while the faithful washed their hands at the sacred fountain.

# THE RECREATION SCENE

By Edward Boyajian

## STRETCH THAT DOLLAR BILL BY JOINING RECREATION ASSN.

One of the best "buys" around is being offered again this spring by the Water Department Employees' Recreation Association. This buy, for just one dollar, is membership in WDERA.

Last year the association had 625 members.

Despite devaluation, a dollar buys a lot of things in WDERA. Here are some of the recent savings which non members have missed:

- March 23 Dinner at Liberty Bell Clubhouse ($9.75)
- April 15 Phillies-Mets baseball ($4.25 seats at $4)
- April 28 Banquet with Louis Prima at Palumbo's (dinner, wine, drink, tax and tip for $11.50 and up)

Because of its large membership, WDERA is able to arrange these and other group savings, including discounts on theater tickets, the year around.

More than savings, however, WDERA offers Water Department employees an opportunity to participate in a variety of City-sponsored team sports - softball, basketball, bowling, golf, chess, and many more.

## INDIANS DEFY "BIG CHIEFS" TO PLAY SOFTBALL MAY 5

Management could lose its scalp on Saturday, May 5. The Water Department Indians have challenged the Chiefs to a softball game.

This challenge was easy to foresee. Ever since the short-handed Chiefs crushed the Indians (3-0) in a football game last October, the Indians have been plotting revenge. An Indian recently stated, "We can assure you Chiefs that this humiliating defeat hasn't been forgotten."

It is expected that the Chiefs will show up in force for the softball game . . . spurred on by overconfidence. The Indians are counting on that.

Teams are now forming. You can sign up for either team by calling Edward Boyajian, ext. 7885.

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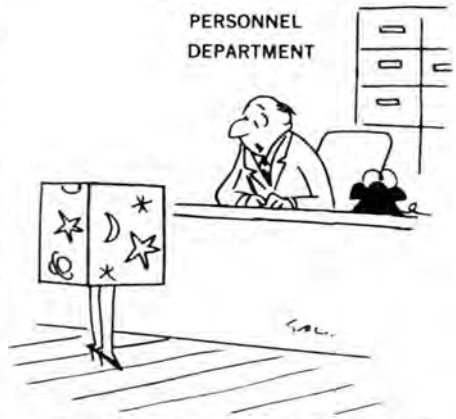
## TOURIST WITH MOST MILES CAN WIN $10 CASH AWARD

The Water Department Employees' Recreation Association is sponsoring a "Great Mail Contest." All you do to win is to mail in a copy of the *Water Department News* from the most distant point on the earth.

Entrants must sign the *News* and enclose it in an envelope with an uncancelled stamp from the country of origin. Postmarks will be the deciding factor for distance. Entries must be received by Editor Ray Harris, 1180 M.S.B., by August 1, 1973. Of course, you don't have to go abroad to win.

The grand prize will be $10.




"I am sorry, Miss Jones, but you don't seem to meet the specifications for a City job."

# SPEND $17.5 MILLION TO IMPROVE SERVICE

Next to good water, progress is the Water Department's most *constant* product.

In calendar 1972, the Water Department spent over $5 million to create new facilities for its water system, and $12.5 million on wastewater (sewerage) improvements. Current capital outlays for water and sewer projects average $1 million to $2 million monthly.

Thanks to this, the department's customers will be even better served in the future.

### Water System

Perhaps, the most tangible change will be tasted (or not tasted) by Philadelphians this summer. This will involve the application of ammonia to the finished water at the Torresdale and Queen Lane Plants. The ammonia will combine with chlorine to form a tasteless, odorless, longer lasting disinfectant. Gone will be the chlorinous tastes and odors.

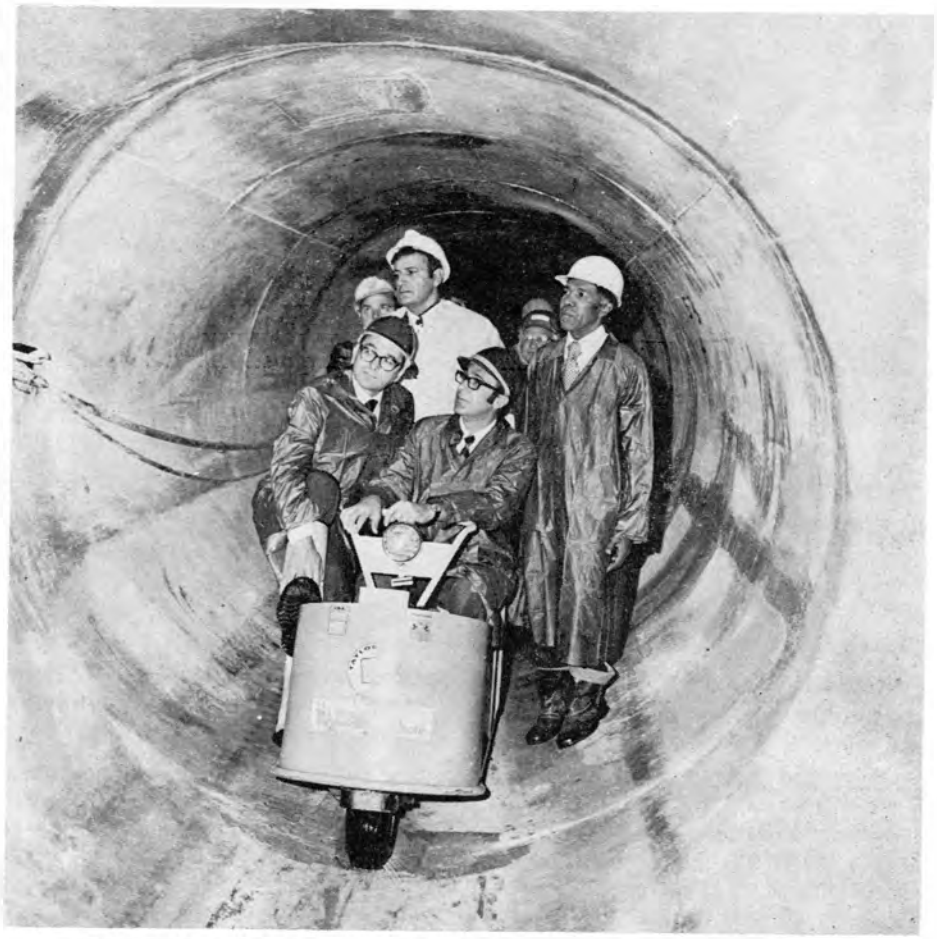
For this purpose, ammonia equipment is being installed at the Torresdale Plant under contracts totaling $259,000, while new, but hitherto unused, equipment at the Queen Lane Plant is being modified. The Belmont Plant has been applying ammonia since 1967.

*New Reservoir*: Customers supplied by the Queen Lane Plant are already enjoying the benefit of a new covered reservoir. The second half of this reservoir went into service last September, and automatic controls for it were finished in January.

Holding 50 million gallons of purified water, the reservoir will help the plant meet peak demand on hot summer days and during busy hours. It was formed from old filter beds at a cost of $3.5 million.

*Water Tunnel*: Sometime this summer, water from the Schuylkill River will flow to the Queen Lane Plant through a new tunnel. Extending for 6,000 feet, the tunnel will carry up to 150 million gallons daily. Though completed last autumn, the 8-ft. tube awaits a connecting pipeline loop at the river end. The tunnel and loop will cost $3.4 million. For the Queen Lane Plant, the tunnel will assure a reliable supply of river water to meet growing future demand.

*Water Pumps*: Two new pumps, with a combined capacity of 80 million gallons daily, went into service at the Lardner's Point Station in 1972. Station capacity increased from 210 to 240 M.G.D., thus guaranteeing a steady supply for consumers on warm summer days.



**MOTOR SCOOTER is driven by Commissioner Carmen F. Guarino through a 6,000-ft. tunnel that will supply river water to the Queen Lane Plant. With him on inspection tour are Deputy Managing Director Thomas C. Piccoli (white rain coat), Deputy Commissioner Kenneth Zitomer (seated left) and Construction Chief Walter H. Clark.**

*Water Mains*: In calendar 1972, the department laid approximately 19 miles of new water mains. Many of these mains replaced old lines: others reinforced supply or provided service for new housing. In addition, over 11 miles of old mains were cleaned and cement lined. Both of these programs are still going strong.

### Wastewater System

Stream protection has been much in the minds of Water Department planners. Besides planning a $233.1 million expansion of the water pollution control plants (described on page 1 of the *News*), they have been making a number of changes in the plants.

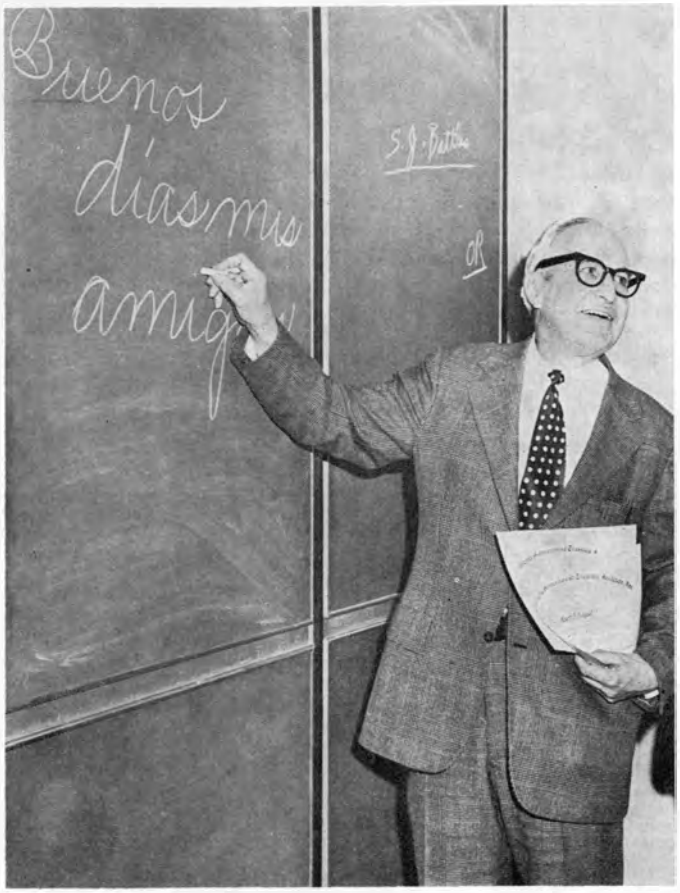
In the past year, new pumps, valves, and controls have been installed at the plants. Most important, however, are grease burner buildings.

*Grease Burner Buildings*: Plant odors and other problems will be greatly reduced when incinerators are completed at the Southwest and Southeast Plants. Now under construction, the incinerators will burn each hour a combined 6,000 lbs. of grease and oil skimmed from wastewater. Their cost will be $1,847,750.

*New Sewers*: In calendar 1972, the department constructed 13 miles of sewers to replace old lines, service new homes, and relieve insanitary conditions. Several more miles are currently being built.

*Outlying Flows*: As part of its good neighbor policy, the city agreed to accept up to 1.5 million gallons of wastewater daily from two Delaware County authorities. The Water Department built a sewer to receive this flow.

**FIVE WATER EMPLOYEES receive certificates from Commissioner Carmen F. Guarino, for completing courses in the Philadelphia Government Training Institute. L. to r., Timothy Waterman, Christopher Wingert, Frances Bruchbocker, Commissioner Guarino, Albert Raiguel, and William McKenzie.**




**ALBERT RAIGUEL, who studied Spanish in the Philadelphia Government Training Institute, explains how to say a friendly word when in Mexico. PGTI teaches City employees new skills, ranging from basic supervision to data processing.**

# FORTY-SEVEN FRESHMEN TO JOIN QUARTER CENTURY CLUB MAY 8

The Water Department's Quarter Century Club will take in another batch of freshmen on May 8.

Forty-five employees who have just completed 25 years of City service, will be inducted into the club at a dinner to be held in the Middle East Restaurant. Commissioner Carmen F. Guarino and other officials will welcome the new members.

The freshmen will increase the roll of living members to approximately 275. It is rumored that both old and new members will enjoy a sparkling program at the dinner.

The new inductees will include:

*Construction*: Thomas Durkin, Clemens J. Kasperowicz, George Lott, Charles Mager, Harry Mallick, and William O'Meara.

*Design*: Rocco P. Giannini, George Gimborn, Allen Stackhouse, and Louis Benoff.

*Distribution*: Roger M. Broley, Richard W. Connelly, Benjamin DiTore, Nadine Eskridge, Julius Fuller, Edward Parrish, Murray E. Roane, Robert E. Sullivan, Richard A. Supplee, Albert A. Tyman, and Angelo J. Varrella.

*Fiscal*: Edith Archibald and John Briggs.

*Pumping*: Michael F. Barrett (ret.), James P. Brady, George H. Devlin, Steve Gagajewski, Charles Mckeever, Stephen J. Miller, Joseph F. O'Neill, and Loretta C. Walsh.

*Water Treatment*: Robert Henry, James Johnson, John Mansfield, Charles McBride, Charles I. Pierce, and Rodnor Rogers.

*Others*: George Miller, Automotive Maintenance; Eugene Vicario (ret.), Building Maintenance; Anthony Piscitello (ret.), Meter Shop; John Del Vecchio, Plant Maintenance; James A. Moran, Industrial Wastes; Edward Potts, Northeast Plant; Howard B. Millner, Southeast Plant; and Anthony A. Miami, Water Operations Analysis; Robert Miller and Edwin Kirk, Survey.

# WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

Philadelphia, PA

Winter 1984


Dennis Oakes, Mrs. Norma Baxter and Commissioner Marrazzo

## Samuel S. Baxter Plant Dedication

The Torresdale Water Treatment Plant was dedicated as the Samuel S. Baxter Water Treatment Plant on Wednesday, October 19, 1983 during formal ceremonies hosted by Commissioner William J. Marrazzo.

Dennis Oakes, former City Representative, spoke on behalf of former Mayor Green who could not attend due to an emergency. Mrs. Norma Baxter, her son Richard A. Baxter and over 150 friends and employees attended the ceremonies. Samuel S. Baxter, who passed away on February 7, 1982, was the department's first Water Commissioner and Chief Engineer from 1952 to 1972. He had previously been employed in the Philadelphia Department of Public Works from 1923 to 1951.

His innovative engineering and sound management principles were the driving forces behind a four hundred million dollar program to modernize and upgrade the City's water and sewer system facilities. The Torresdale Plant was opened in 1959 as part of this program of modernization under the leadership of Samuel S. Baxter.

He had an international reputation as an outstanding engineer and served as president of the American Water Works Assocation, the American Public Works Assocation and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

In the Fall of 1982, in recognition of his 49 years of outstanding public service to Philadelphia, City Council passed an ordinance designating the Torresdale Water Treatment Plant as the Samuel S. Baxter Water Treatment Plant.

## NAME THE NEWSLETTER

Can you give us a name for our Newsletter? Something unique that we can use on the masthead to establish a new identity?

If you think of a name, you may win a $50.00 Savings Bond or one of many other prizes which will be awarded in the "Name the Newsletter Contest."

After an absence of over fifteen years, the Water Department's Newsletter is back! Initially to be published quarterly, the newsletter will provide employees and their families with useful information about the department's activities, plans, and problems. It is not intended to replace any of the monthly newsletters now published by some of the operating plants.

We suggest you keep your suggestions short, preferably two or three words, and certainly not more than five or six.

**Contest Rules**

All employees of the Philadelphia Water Department are eligible to enter the contest. More than one suggestion may be entered, but it should be on a separate sheet of paper. In the case of winning duplicate suggestions, the earliest entry received will be declared the winner. Entries listing your full name, your unit, and the suggested name for the Newsletter should be sent to Maureen Sullivan, Editor, Room 1160 Municipal Services Building.

## NEW LEGAL COUNSEL

Denise D. Colliers, Deputy City Solicitor, has been appointed General Counsel for the Water Department. She will assume full responsibility of the department's legal affairs.

Ms. Colliers formerly was the assistant to the director of the Federal Judicial Center in Washington, D.C. She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School and Swarthmore College. She replaces Peggy Goodman who was promoted to Division Deputy Solicitor in the Law Department.

# Employess Donate The Gift of Life

On October 14, the department officially ended its fall 1983 blood drive, a drive which resulted in an unprecedented number of donors from among our employees. Though the drive lasted for a little over a month, we had nearly three times the number of volunteers than were generated in all of the previous year.

During the course of the drive, over 200 employees visited either the downtown Red Cross Donor Center, at 23 S. 23rd Street, or the Northeast Red Cross facility at 2417 Welsh Road, to volunteer to give "the gift of life" — blood. Perhaps more important than the total number of donors is the fact that fifty-nine of these people were giving blood for the first time. First-time donors are particularly important because once they learn how simple, and yet how fulfilling, the donation process can be, they tend to become regualr donors.

A number of the employees who donated during the drive were among those classified by the Red Cross as "extraordinary donors." These are people who have, over several years of donating, given a total of a gallon or more of blood. As blood is donated one pint at a time, it requires a minimum of eight separate donations to reach the "extraordinary donor" stage. One gallon donors include **John Hunt,** of Customer Service, **Lawrence Rivello,** of the Emergency and Support Services, and **Curtis Rodgers,** of Sludge Management.

Employees who have donated between one and two gallons of blood are Andrew **Cottone,** of Pumping; **Francis Gola,** SWWPCP, **Sheldon Isaac,** Materials Testing Laboratory; **Kevin O'Rourke,** Sludge Management; **Ross Patterson,** Auto Maintenance; **Karen Richardson,** Metering, **Roy Romano,** Planning and Engineering; **Philip Sheau,** Personnel; **Thomas Volk,** Distribution; and **Richardeane Webb,** of Survey.

Two of the department's employees have donated more than two gallons of blood; they are **Charles Mingo,** of the Emergency and Support Services, and **William Horger,** of the SWWCP.

Another way of becoming an "extraordinary donor" is to participate in the pheresis donation program. Pheresis is a special form of donation in which only one component of the blood is used and only certain people are eligible. Specific parts of the whole blood, such as the white cells or platelets, can be used to treat such diseases as leukemia and aplastic anemia. The entire process can take as long as three hours, but considering the serious illnesses that these donations are used to treat, it is time very well spent.

In the past four months, five of the department's employees have taken part in the pheresis donation program. They are **Leonard Bernstein** of the Plant Expansion Project Administration, **Barry Brait,** of Accounting, **Michael Hogan,** of Financial and Rate Analysis; **Girvin Kurtz,** of Design; and **Robert Schimmel** of Conveyance.

Much of the credit for the success of this drive should go to the employees from each unit who volunteered to act as donor recruiters. All of them gave a great deal of time and effort to make this program a success. Our recruiters included **Frank Ball,** of the Machine Shop, **Dilip Bhattacharya,** Southwest Abatement; **Robert Britt,** Southeast Abatement; **John Craney,** Customer Service and Metering; **Leroy Dolison** and **Janie C. Lindor,** Emergency and Support Services; **Paul Franklin,** Southeast WPCP, **Jim Hempson,** Construction; **Michael Hogan,** Finance; **Paul Kopicki,** Abatement; **Yasmen MacIntosh,** Data Management; **Hugh Myers,** Building Maintenance; **Ed Shervin,** Treatment Headquarters; **Ray Staniec,** Belmont Filters; and **Frank Vinci,** from Sludge Management. Special thanks should go to **William Cook,** of the Distribution Unit, who recruited 40 donors for the drive, and to **John Muldowney** of the Samuel S. Baxter Water Treatment Plant, who recruited 34 donors as part of a separate drive that he conducts regularly at our northeastern facilities.

However, the final credit for the success of the drive must go to the **men** and **women of the Water Department** who volunteered to give not just some of their time, but a part of themselves so that many seriously ill people could have a second chance. Thanks to all of you who cared enough to give blood.

**Guru Bose, Plant Supt. and Fred Rustam**

## Work Begins on Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant Improvements

Contractors have begun some long-awaited work on the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant. Excavation work is almost completed and the foundations have been poured for two of the new facilities being built.

The biggest change at the plant will be a new chemical storage building. It will house an underground tank farm, new chemical feed equipment and a new process control room, new piping for the chemical feed systems will be part of the job and the contractor will be working all over the plant running the lines and installing new application points and new sample points.

Two features of the new facilities will be a new process control system and the elimination of gaseous chlorine in the plant. the new control system will be microprocessor-based and will improve data logging and monitoring of the treatment proces. All chemical feeds will be automatically flow-paced, automatic backwash control of the filters will be provided and extensive alarm and monitoring capability will be provided, all instrumentation in the plant will be modernized and expanded.

The new Queen Lane Plant will have the capability to feed several new chemicals, most importantly sodium hypochlorite, the use of sodium hypochlorite (NAH) as a primary disinfectant will eliminate the use of gaseous chlorine in the plant. NAH is as effective a disinfecting agent as chlorine, but because it comes in solution form, it is easier and safer to handle.

The renovation work, which was bid at $10 million, is scheduled for completion in April, 1985, during this time the plant will be kept fully operational, except for several temporary shutdowns.

John Durrant

### Durrant Receives Award

John Durrant, acting chief of the Materials Testing Laboratory, was awarded the Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award for Professional Achievement by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) on October 19, 1983 at its annual convention in Houston.

This prestigious National ASCE award was created to recognize professional contributions of younger members to the Society. The award is presented annually to no more than five persons throughout the United States.

John, a graduate of Villanova University, is vice president of the Philadelphia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineering. He also serves as chairman of the Chestnut Hill Community Association's Traffic and Transportation Committee.

In his spare time, John works with the Delaware Valley Eye Bank at Wills Eye Hospital, providing education and other support to persons facing corneal transplants. He also devotes time to a new photography hobby. John and his wife, Pamela, live in Chestnut Hill and have one son.

## NEW SECURITY UNIT

A new unit has been formed within the Administrative Division to provide security services to all Water Department facilities. The new Security Services Unit began operation on January 30, 1984 under the direction of Mr. Charles L. Upchurch, Security Services Manager. Formerly a member of the District Attorney's technical staff, Mr. Upchurch has been assisting Deputy Commissioner Thomas E. Walton, III on departmental security matters for some time. He developed the concepts on which the new unit is based and has now assumed all responsibilities for implementing them.

The department's existing Security Unit of the Water Operations Division has been transferred intact to the new security unit. Lieutenant Samuel Couch will continue to supervise all Security Officers. Staffing will be increased in the future to provide for investigative services and maintenance and operation of electronic security services.

### Smoke Detectors For Fire Prevention

Are you one of those people who thinks fires can only happen to the guy next door? Well, last year alone, 5,500 people, just like you, died in home fires. Most of them died needlessly. Surprisingly, the majority of fire deaths are not caused by fire itself. Most often, fire victims die from smoke inhalation. For this reason, smoke detectors play a large part in saving lives.

A smoke detector works by sounding an alarm when it senses smoke. Since smoke rises, the best place to install a detector is in the ceiling or high on an inside wall just below the ceiling. In a multi-leveled home, you need a detector on each level. On the first floor, place the unit on the ceiling, at the base of the stairwell. Upstairs, install the detectors close enough to the bedroom so that you can hear the alarm inside the bedroom when the door is closed. Don't install a detector within three feet of an air supply. This will blow the smoke away from the detector. Also, don't place detectors between air return duct and any sleeping area. This will recirculate and dilute the smoke which can result in delaying the alarm. If you install more than one detector, you should purchase units which can be interconnected. This way, when one unit detects smoke, all the detectors sound the alarm.

Once you install smoke detectors, it's important to inspect them periodically. Keep the grillwork free from dirt and dust which can cause a false alarm to sound. You can clean a smoke detector by gently vacuuming it. Never paint over detectors; this makes them totally useless. Also, test detectors at least every 30 days. Most models come equipped with a test button for this purpose. In battery-operated detectors, remember to check the batteries. You should place them approximately once a year. When they begin to weaken, the detector sounds an alarm. This signal usually lasts about seven days. So, if you're away for a long period of time, remember to check the detector on your return home.

Smoke detectors can't prevent fires, but they can alert you to the danger. Once an alarm sounds, leave the house immediately. Don't worry about your favorite pictures or that priceless antique. Valuables can be replaced; lives can't. Those few seconds can mean the difference between life and death.

Ms. Cleo Williams

### First Female Truck Driver

The department is fortunate to have the first and only female truck driver. Cleo Williams, is a Heavy Equipment Operator (HEOI) in the Inlet Cleaning Unit.

Cleo drives and operates a combination dump truck and crane, which mechanically cleans inlets. This truck, also known as the combo, lifts the debris from the inlet with the crane and places it in the dumpster. At the end of each day, the material is taken to an incinerator or landfill.

She was promoted to the HEO I position in November, 1982. Prior to that, she was a laborer for five years in the same unit. Leroy Kelley, her supervisor says, "Cleo's a good worker, always striving to be efficient and precise in doing her job. She passed her probationary period with commendations for her willingness and ability to perform her duties with little supervision."

Well known in the unit for keeping a clean and neat truck, Cleo is pleased that she was promoted to this job which is usually occupied by males. Most of all she doesn't think she's special, just that she's qualified.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR NEWSLETTER

**WITHIN THE LAST TWO MONTHS:**

**Has anyone gone on vacation? Where?**

**Is an employee or their spouse expecting a baby or had one or did they become grandparents?**

**Are any of the employee's children starting or completing college or in the military service? Where?**

**Is an employee playing on or coaching an athletic team?**

(Continued on page 4)

# NEW EMPLOYEES

| NAME | POSITION | UNIT |
|---|---|---|
| Ronald McCoy | Chemical Technician | Bureau of Laboratory Services |
| Curtis J. Rodgers | Graduate Sanitary Engineer | Sludge Management |
| David Wilmore | Laborer | Inlet Cleaning |
| Warren C. Johnson | Laborer | Inlet Cleaning |
| William E. Kirkman | Laborer | Inlet Cleaning |
| Cornelius Herbert | Laborer | Inlet Cleaning |
| William J. Horger | Treatment Plant Operator Trainee | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Betty Peterson | Treatment Plant Operator Trainee | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Regina Albergo | Clerk Typist II | Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Stanley Smith | Administrative Intern | Audits and Special Studies |
| Joseph Hinton | Water Distribution Repairman | Emergency and Support Services |
| Anthony Still | Water Distribution Repairman | Emergency and Support Services |
| Jesse Mathis | Water Distribution Repairman | Emergency and Support Services |
| Laurence A. Rivello | Water Distribution Repairman Helper | Emergency and Support Services |
| Daniel W. Harvey | Water Distribution Repairman Helper | Distribution |
| Reginald Lloyd | Water Distribution Repairman Helper | Distribution |
| John Daniels | Water Distribution Repairman Helper | Distrubition |
| Renee Garvin | Utility Librarian Technician | Executive |
| Charlotte Long | Clerk Stenographer II | Executive |
| Joseph Mullen | Management Trainee | Collector Systems Support |
| Curtis Johnson | Semi-skilled Laborer | Interceptor Monitoring |
| Frank W. Vinci | Graduate Sanitary Engineer | Sludge Management |
| James Honesty | Laborer | Inlet Cleaning |
| George Oreu | Electrician | Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Harvey B. Sharpe | Custodial Worker I | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Ozell Allen | Computer Operator | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Richard D. Raighn | Water Distribution Repairman Helper | Distribution |
| Charles Butler | Security Officer I | Building Maintenance |
| Joseph Lanciano | Security Officer I | Building Maintenance |
| Vincent Gordon | Security Officer I | Building Maintenance |
| Robert Snyder | Custodial Worker I | Samuel S. Baxter Filters |
| Gregory V. Mack | Custodial Worker I | Belmont Filters |
| Andrew Berko | Electrician | Pumping |
| Marietta Green | Clerk Typist II | Metering |

## BIRTHS

**Jeanne Ballestero, Bureau of Laboratory Services, a baby girl on June 30, 1983.**

**Kimberly Casey, Inlet Cleaning, a baby girl on November 16, 1983.**

**Charlie Shea, Baxter Plant, a baby girl, on July 7th.**

**Joseph Morrow, Industrial Waste Unit, a baby boy on February 5, 1984.**

**Joan Furness, Construction Branch, a baby grandson on January 3, 1984.**

**Mike Nelson**

### Nelson Elected President

Michael D. Nelson, Chief of Water Pollution Control Division, has been elected the 1983-84 president of the Water Pollution Control Association of Pennsylvania.

The state-wide association is composed of 1,600 members dedicated to educating its members and the public on water pollution control issues and solutions. Its members include plant operators, engineers, consultants, manufacturers, regulatory personnel and educators from the municipal and industrial sectors.

A graduate of Newark College and Villanova University, Mike is a registered professional engineer in Pennsylvania and also holds an A-1 Pennsylvania Sewage Treatment Plant Operators Certificate. He is past president of the Eastern Pennsylvania Water Pollution Control Association, Incorporated.

Mike is a long distance runner and participated in the New York Marathon on October 23. He completed the 26 mile run in 3 hours and 59 minutes, during heavy rains. A resident of Northeast Philadelphia, Mike and his wife, Barbara, have five children.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR NEWSLETTER

(Continued from page 3)

**Is an employee an officer of or involved in a community, civic, musical, dramatic, art or professional organization?**

**Did they hunt for deer or small game?**

**Have you heard of any retired employees' activities?**

**Did an employee get engaged, married, or have a significant wedding anniversary?**

**Does any employee have an interesting hobby?**

**Is the employee taking any educational courses?**

**Has the employee moved to a new home?**

**Has anyone lost a lot of weight on a diet?**

**Has anyone made an unusual purchase, such as a sailboat, motorcycle or Jaguar sedan?**

# PROMOTIONS

## PLANNING AND ENGINEERING

| NAME | POSITION | UNIT |
|---|---|---|
| Jamie Ellison | Physical Testing Technician | Materials Testing Laboratory |
| Zacharias Xenakes | Surveyor III | Survey |
| Arthur Wilson | Analytical Chemist II | Bureau of Laboratory Services |
| Laura Spitz | Administrative Technician | Plant Expansion Program Administration |
| Nathaniel Woodson | Physical Testing Technician | Materials Testing Laboratory |
| Dennis King | Systems Programmer II | Data Management Center |
| Girvin Kurtz | Architectural Projects Specialist | Design |
| Stephen Furtek | Civil Engineer I | Design |
| Kevin McNichol | Civil Engineer II | Design |
| Brian McNamara | Civil Engineer II | Design |
| Brian Mohl | Mechanical Engineer I | Construction |
| Stephen Metzinger | Civil Engineer I | Design |
| Wayne Kudenchak | Civil Engineer II | Construction |
| Clifford Lahann | Civil Engineer I | Design |
| Henry Morer, Jr. | Electrical Engineer I | Design |
| Theresa King | Sanitary Engineer I | Research and Development |
| Richard Sheffler | Civil Engineer I | Construction |

## FINANCE

| NAME | POSITION | UNIT |
|---|---|---|
| Jo Ann Ballay | Account Clerk | Accounting |
| Chester Wojnar | Accountant I | Accounting |
| Thomas Colantuono | Accountant I | Accounting |

## WATER OPERATIONS

| NAME | POSITION | UNIT |
|---|---|---|
| Norman Weintraub | Chief, Water Transport Operation Engineer | Water Conveyance Headquarters |
| David Rainey | Equipment Dispatcher | Distribution |
| Milton Fletcher | Water Distribution Foreman | Water Conveyance Headquarters |
| Eric Anderson | Emergency Water Distribution Repairman | Emergency & Support Services |
| Charles Butler | Security Officer I | Security |
| William McKeon | Sanitary Engineer IV | Samuel S. Baxter Water Treatment Plant |
| Marcus Spencer | Treatment Plant Operator I | Queen Lane Filter Plant |
| Robert Schimmel | Mechanical Engineer II | Water Conveyance Headquarters |
| Henry Rock | Welder | Distribution |
| David Poff | Sanitary Engineer I | Load Control |

(Continued on page 6)

## WEDDINGS

**Carol Portman, Executive Office, to David Udis on October 29, 1983.**

**Frank Shoch, Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant, to Ellen L. Mabel on October 15, 1983.**

**Robin Rizzo, Personnel, to Dino Pierelli on January 21, 1984. Resigned to reside in Wilkes Barre, Pa.**

**Henry T. Hinton, Jr., Drainage Infomration, to Leticia Egea, on February 18, 1984.**

**Melvin Beale, Distribution Supt. and Daniel Harvey**

### 1984 Combined City Employees Campaign

The employees of the Water Department contributed $89,453 to the 1984 Combined City Employees Campaign for Human Services.

This outstanding contribution was far and away the largest amount ever raised for a fund drive in the history of the Water Department. It exceeded our goal of $77,000 by more than 16%.

What made this Combined Campaign unique was that it gave each employee the opportunity to select from literally thousands of health and human services agencies in making their contribution.

As an incentive for increased participation, we again held our raffle, which included the awarding of **Six World Series tickets,** Champagne breakfast served by Captain Sewer, and one hundred Captain Sewer coffee mugs.

The following employees were the lucky winners of the World Series tickets:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Tom Brady** | **Construction** |
| **Kash Jackson** | **Customer Service** |
| **George Strumfels** | **Design** |
| **Daniel Harvey** | **Distribution** |
| **Larry Harrison** | **Distribution** |
| **Jacob Lowman** | **Distribution** |

The enviable winner of the Champagne breakfast with Captain Sewer was Joe Gosselin of the Northeast Treatment Plant.

The one hundred winners of the Captain Sewer coffee mugs were equally distributed around the Water Department.

All in all, what made this Combined Campaign so successful was the willingness of Water Department employees to give generously to organizations seeking to improve the quality of life for everyone.

Be happy and proud of your $89,453 gift!

## PROMOTIONS WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

(Continued from page 5)

| NAME | POSITION | UNIT |
|---|---|---|
| Sebastian Guglielmo | Interceptor Services Supervisor | Interceptor Monitoring |
| Thomas Coffey | Treatment Plant Operator II | Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Joseph Barber | Labor Sub-Foreman | Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Wardeen Cook | Labor Foreman I | Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Roland Cooley | Heavy Equipment Operator II | Sludge Management |
| Raymond Williams | Maintenance Mechanic II | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Francis Senske | Sanitary Engineer IV | Sludge Management |
| Bruce Johnson | Labor Foreman I | Inlet Cleaning |
| Lemuel Johnson | Sewer Maintenance Foreman I | Sewer Maintenance |
| William Brown | Treatment Operator I | Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Daniel Plasky | Administrative Services Supervisor | Water Pollution Control Treatment Headquarters |
| Michael Impagliazzo | Heavy Equipment Operator II | Sludge Management |
| Michael McKenna | Equipment Operator I | Sewer Maintenance |
| Idell Dearry | Equipment Operator I | Sewer Maintenance |
| Charles Johnson | Sewer Maintenance Foreman I | Sewer Maintenance |
| James Downs | Treatment Plant Operator II | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Stephen Lerario | Industrual Waste Control Technician II | Industrial Waste |
| David Collins | Plant Mechanical Electrical Operator | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Derrick Sawyer | Treatment Plant Operator Trainee | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Joseph Cerrone | Industrial Waste Control Technician II | Industrial Waste |
| Tyrone Cunningham | Treatment Plant Operator I | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant |
| Neville More | Electrical Engineer I | Water Pollution Control Treatment Headquarters |

## RETIREES

| NAME | UNIT | DATE OF RETIREMENT | YEARS OF SERVICE |
|---|---|---|---|
| John Boyd | Belmont Filter Plant | 8/30/83 | 13 |
| Settle Carrol | Distribution | 7/29/83 | 20 |
| Thornhill Cosby | Pumping | 8/29/83 | 29 |
| Frank Fala | Building Maintenance | 7/26/83 | 24 |
| Frank Janits | Distribution | 7/22/83 | 30 |
| Philip Marcolongo | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant | 7/14/83 | 12 |
| Robert Miller | Survey | 12/14/83 | 34 |
| Ralph Mongelluzzo | Distribution | 7/15/83 | 21 |
| Leonard Moss | Distribution | 7/29/83 | 28 |
| Julian Murray | Sludge Management | 7/26/83 | 20 |
| Benson Nichols | Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant | 7/27/83 | 29 |
| Evan Norton | Distribution | 11/25/83 | 30 |
| John Pegues | Inlet Cleaning | 8/15/83 | 25 |
| William Poplaski | Northeast Abatement | 9/27/83 | 29 |
| George Pringle | Sewer Maintenance | 7/28/83 | 30 |
| James Spinner | Samuel S. Baxter Water Treatment Plant | 7/29/83 | 26 |
| Stanley Zagnojny | Pumping | 8/22/83 | 27 |

**Ron Luciani, Design Chief and Thomas F. Smith**

### Thomas F. Smith Retires After a Lengthy Career

After a 35½ year career, Thomas F. Smith, Assistant Chief of Design, will be retiring on February 24, 1984. His last working day was on December 8, 1983.

Tom started his formal education at Villanova University and graduated from the Drexel Institute of Technology. Prior to college, he served with the United States Army in Europe as a paratrooper during World War II.

In 1949, he went to work for the Streets Department and seven years later joined the Water Department. His vast experience with the department has been a great asset to the Design Branch and will be immensely missed.

Tom's co-workers, who know him for his unique sense of humor and dry wit, honored him with a farewell gathering on December 7. We hope that Tom continues to find happiness in his new endeavors.

### New Driver Training Program

The Safety and Training Offices have begun a drivers' training program for selected employees. The three day course covers topics such as Pennsylvania Motor Vehicle Laws, vehicle maintenance, defensive driving, skills-practice, hazards of drinking and driving and accident reporting.

First priority has been given to employees whose driving record warrants training, second, training will be offered to newly hired equipment operators. Finally, refresher training will be given to employees who have not been trained in the last year.

The training is being held at the Court Three Building on the grounds of the Samuel S. Baxter Water Treatment Plant. The building has been cleaned and refurbished and will be used for the classroom training portion of the program. A driving course has been developed for the skill training portion.

# *WATER DEPARTMENT'S 3RD ANNUAL PICNIC*

Over 250 employees and their families attended the department's annual picnic on Saturday, September 24, 1983 at Pachella Park located at Henry Avenue and Livezey Lane.

Everyone participated in the many games and contests. The children, especially, enjoyed the pony rides, sack races and getting their faces painted.

Not only was there plenty to do, but there was plenty to eat and drink. Everyone raved about the barbecued chicken and corn-on-the-cob dinners which were sold for six dollars each and for one dollar, there was unlimited soda and beer.

To top things off, it was a beautiful fall day for a picnic. Everyone had a great time and plans to return next year.


**Congratulations to the following employees who were honored in March, 1984 for 25 years of service:**

### ADMINISTRATION

Addie Matthews
Floyd Platton
Robert Walker

### PLANNING AND ENGINEERING

Josephine Blackwell
Marie Grant
Arline Jordan
John Lawton
Rinaldo Luciani
Samuel Mark
Barbara Payne
Inez Roberts
Clyde White

### WATER OPERATIONS

Azad Attarian
Louis Barnes, Jr.
William Brown
Alfred Cardano
John Catalano
Harry Cooper
James Esterline
Lawrence Fitts
Wayne Fowler
Walter Holloway
James Hughey
Elijah Jackson
Huett Jackson
James Johnson
Percy Johnson
Isadore King
Maxine King
Leo Lawton
Anthony Mazzeo
John McDade
Barbara Moreira
Clarence Morris
George Myers
Leo Peyton
Roy Somers
Steven Supp
Lloyd Swinson
David Thomas
Wyatt Thomas
William Townsend
Vincent Washington
Lester Watkins
Spence Wilks

### WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

Thomas Coffey
Jessie Davis
Samuel Elliott
Jaffis Harris
Charles Hawkins
Frederick Hicks
Thomas Johnson
Delores Jones
Edward Jubilee
Leroy Kelley
Charles Meyrick
James Pugh
Robert Rabiger
James Roberts
Frank Rogers
Leon Skiter
Charles Slaughter
Theodore Stevenson

### RIVER DIPPER'S PERMIT

This permit is issued to any and all
To dip from the river in spring or in fall,
In summer or winter — as much as you wish
And carry it home in a pail or a dish.

It's raw and untreated and includes the waste
That's slipped in upstream to improve the taste,
No chlorine's been added to make it more pure,
Bacteria are grateful for that, we are sure.

It takes 55 gallons to equal one drum
And only four barrels weigh nearly one ton.
Will you carry this much in your car or by hand
To use in your house — or sprinkle your land?

If it's filtered and treated and pumped to your home
With pressure and purity, the hard work is done.
You just turn the spigot in kitchen or bath
It saves you a trip down that little back path.

The cost is so little and its value so high
That on any market, it's the world's best buy.
The end of the story makes common sense—
One ton of water costs just thirty cents.

## NEWS CORNER

Steve Ballay, Computer Center and Jo Ann Ballay, Fiscal, are expecting their first child in April.

Phil Downs, Computer Center and his wife Tina, are expecting around the same time.

Joe Duffy, Fiscal, celebrated his 30th weddding anniversary with his wife Carolyn on February 20th.

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Alfred V. Altopiedi, a mechanical engineer in the Construction Unit, received his Degree of Juris Doctor from Delaware Law School of Widener University in December 1983. As an evening division student, he successfully completed the 4 year program in 3½ years. His interests in the legal profession include construction litigation and product liability.

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Sanitary Engineer Mike Pickel has transferred to the Belmont Water Treatment Plant to assume the duties of Plant Engineer. Mike formerly worked as a staff engineer in the Water Pollution Control Division's Collector System.

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Joe Makowski, Fiscal, a major in the 304th Civil Affairs Group, Philadelphia, attended a United States Army Reserve Annual Training Tour at Fort Stewart, Georgia in mid-February.

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After visiting EPCOT and relatives in Lakeland, Florida, Bob Walker, Commissioner's Office, headed over to Port Orange to see Elmer Goebel, retired Distribution Superintendent. Elmer claims he is still bowling and playing golf every week.

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Joseph Golembeski has transferred to the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant to accept the position of Assistant Plant Superintendent. Joe previously worked in the Planning and Research Unit.

---

Ed Fox has transferred to the Computer Center to begin a new career as a programmer trainee. Ed placed 2nd on the city-wide examination after his previous experience with the department qualified him for the examination. He was formerly the inventory control technician in the Finance Division.

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Ted Baruch, Laboratory Services, and his wife Betty celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on January 25th.

## PERSONNEL NEWS

**Sick Leave Privileges**

The department will give special recognition to employees who have used five or less sick days (paid or unpaid, charged or uncharged) during 1983 and have been continuously employed since April 1, 1983.

This group of employees will not be subject to sick leave investigation when they are out sick. They will not be required to call the Personnel Office when leaving or returning home for medical treatment. This exemption will continue until the amount of sick leave exceeds five days. However, a doctor's note will have to be submitted, since this requirement is contained in the union contracts. Employees who are exempt, will be notified by letter.

**Child Care Questionnaire**

The department is interested in determining the child care needs f its employees. A questionnaire will soon be distributed to all employees. If you have a child or even if you do not, please take a minute to complete the questionnaire and return it to the Personnel Office, Room 1130 Municipal Services Building.

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### WATER DEPARTMENT NEWS

This newsletter is published by and for the employees of the Philadelphia Water Department. All personnel are encouraged to contribute articles, photographs and any other interesting material to the unit reporter or the editor, Maureen Sullivan, (Room 1180 Municipal Services Building).

## UNIT REPORTERS

Rich Mulchay
Joe Makowski
Bernita Reilly
Cindy Rettig
Larry Davis
Lorin Fields
Marty Goldberg
Marcia Gauthney
Gerri Woods
Joan Daniels
Kaye Turnage
Mary Davis
Carol Wilson
William McKeon
Joanne Anovick
Herb Shallcross
Joanna McErlean
Drew Brown
Sally Kelman
Jerry Kuziw
Hershey Lee, Jr.
Delores Kelly
Richard Overholt
Steve Ballay
Roger Dann
Joe McClung

## CONTRIBUTORS

Joe Duffy
Mark Mills
Lori Stieffenhofer
Jim Aleo
Robert Walker

# PIPELINE

## *Philadelphia Water Department*

**WINTER EDITION 1984-1985**

**One Reading Center, 32 Stories high above Philadelphia's lights and sounds.**

### One Reading Center — Our Brand New Home

The Water Department has made its home in the brand new One Reading Center Building at 1101 Market Street. Monday, October 1, 1984 was the first official day for 320 employees from the Municipal Services Building, City Hall Annex and UGI Building.

The department's space on the 2nd, 4rd and 5th floors was planned, designed, constructed and outfitted to provide a comfortable and efficient work environment. A departmental planning team coordinated with the architect, building management and City agencies for more than a year to assure a well designed work area and orchestrated the relocation for the employees of the various units.

Located on the 2nd floor is Drainage Information, Design, Capital Projects, Management, Construction Planning and Research, Water Main Records and Water Pollution Abatement.

The 3rd floor houses the Word Processing Center, Mail Room, Data Management, Lunchroom, Library, Sludge Management, Industrial Waste Unit, Collector System, and the Administrative offices of the Water Pollution Control and Water Operations divisions.

The Executive, Finance, Personnel and Security offices are on the 5th floor.

One Reading Center provides direct access to the Market East Commuter Station, Gallery Shopping Mall, restaurants, shops and banks.

### "Pipeline"—Prize Winning Name

The Water Department's Newsletter finally has an official name — "Pipeline." This name was selected from more than 300 entries received in the Name the Newsletter Contest. there was so many outstanding entries that it was difficult for the judges to select only one name. However, the judges choice seemed to be confirmed by the fact that "Pipeline" was suggested more than any other entry by the department's employees. The name seems appropriate because it can refer to the activities of both the Water and Wastewater Divisions.

Special thanks go out to everyone that took the time to think of names for the paper. Bob Schimmel, Load Control and Mike Cervone, Construction, submitted the most names. Captain Sewer supplied the belt buckles and tote bags given to the contest runner-ups. Bob Walker, Marily Kagan, Design and Bernard Rosenberg designed the masthead.

The first prize $50 United States Savings Bond went to Evelyn Martinelli, Commissioner's Office. Evelyn was the first person to enter the name "Pipeline." Michael Nelson, WPC, suggested "What's Pumping," which will be the name of our employee news page. The runner-ups are Bob Snyder, Baxter, Joanne Dahme, SE Abatement, Ed Fox, Data Management, Sheila Utley, Survey, James Campbell, Sewer Maintenance, Mary Bennett, Water and Wastewater Analysis, Sharon Conway-Brown, Distribution, Nelson Alston, NEWCPC, Frank Freiling, Pumping, Barbara Moreira, Word Processing, Willie Sanderlin, Central Stores, Ellen Chambers, Finance, Melita Juancito, Distribution, Max Marcinek, Personnel, Albert Dietl, Finance, and Audrey Muckefuse, SE Abatement.

Thanks again to everyone for their participation and cooperation.

## Official Signing for Superfund Money

On Tuesday, May 15, at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant, Governor Dick Thornburg and Congressman Robert Edgar joined Mayor W. Wilson Goode and Commissioner William J. Marrazzo for the ceremonial signing authorizing Superfund monies to clean-up the Enterprise Avenue hazardous waste site. This final agreement is for the removal of contaminated soil from the site adjacent to the plant and will cost $5 million in Federal, State and City funds. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator Thomas Eichler and Pennsylvania Environmental Resources Secretary Nicholas DeBenedictis witnessed the signing of the agreement. A plant tour was conducted and all guests received a bag of Philorganic.

**After Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburg (second from right) and Philadelphia Mayor W. Wilson Goode (right) signed agreements for a new $2.41 million Superfund grant to clean up the Enterprise Avenue site, Water Commissioner Marrazzo used the special occasion to present the Governor and State Environmental Resources (DER) Secretary Nicholas DeBenedictis with bags of "Philorganic," the department's composted sludge product.**

## S.W. Plant Anticipates Computer Control

**by C. Drew Brown**

Operators at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant (SWWPCP) are anticipating that full-time operation of the plant's computer process control system in March, 1985. The real-time computer system monitors some 4,000 points around the plant, and will control 1,000 pieces of equipment, including pumps, valves, gates, and supervisory setpoint controllers. Eight of the thirty-seven control algorithms will be turned on in March and Operators will use cathode-ray tube (CRT) screens around the clock to monitor the plant's performance under computer control.

The computer will automatically log the plant's process data freeing the shift Operators from this mundane task. Plant Manager Thomas J. Lauletta, expects cost savings and higher treatment efficiencies to result. He says, "The Operators will be able to perform more equipment inspections on shift. This will result in fewer equipment breakdowns. In addition, the computer will control chemical feed and wastewater pumping rates with far more efficiency than we could dream of achieving manually. When process and equipment problems do occur, the Operator will be able to respond better. The Operators will have more interesting duties, the plant effluent will improve, and the Department will spend fewer dollars."

Start-up of the computer system at the brand new $250 million treatment plant began in April 1982 with the installation of the Leeds and Northrup computer hardware. Since that time, a cooperative effort involving personnel from the SW Plant, SW Construction, Leeds and Northrup, and Greeley and Hansen Engineers (the Department's consultants for the project) has been underway. Included in the start-up program have been signal checks, signal problems resolution, local control strat-egy tests, monitoring and control soft-ware demonstrations and debugging, and hardware enhancements. About 90% of this work is completed. SW Plant employees from the Instrumenta-tion Crew, Electrical Crew, and Opera-tions Group have participated in the start-up program.

Installation of field CRT's and training of Operators will occur immediately prior to the initiation of computer system control in March. Start-up work will continue for another year, with additional software to be installed and debugged, signals to be checked and control algorithms to be demonstrated and put into operation.

Design of the computer system began about ten years ago, when engineers from Greeley and Hansen met frequently with a group of engineers, Operators, and instrumentation special-ists from the Water Pollution Control Division to define the computer control strategies. Similar systems will be installed at the Southeast and Northeast Plants.

## O'Rourke Races Huskies

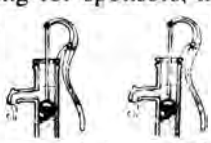
During this past winter, Kevin O'Rourke, Sludge Management, participated in several dog racing competitions throughout Pennsylvania and Canada.

Kevin is the co-owner of 25 Siberian huskies, and has been racing them for two years. He first became interested in dog racing while working at a feed store during his college days. A customer encouraged him to try racing his Siberians. He did and hasn't stopped, yet.

On weekends Kevin hitches his huskies to a wooden sled equipped with wheels. He sometimes trains as often as three times a week.

He has been successful in winning racs which have been held in Westline, Pennsylvania; Marmon and Bancroft, Canada. His prizes have included dog food, honey and money.

Kevin is presently training for the new racing searson that began in November. He's looking for sponsors, if anyone is interested.



# *WATER DEPARTMENT'S 4TH ANNUAL PICNIC*
## *"We Had Lots of Fun!"*

# What's Pumping?

**Sam Henley shows off his prize winning produce.**

## Garden Achievement Award

**SAMUEL HENLEY,** Southwest Abatement, was awarded the 1983 Garden Achievement Award by the Garden for All Magazine. Henley was one of three persons to receive the Certificate of Merit from the national publication. He was nominated by thirty-four community gardeners for his loyalty and dedication as the Community Garden Coordinator for the Eastwick Community Garden Associates.

Henley manages a 250-plot community garden, one of the largest in the area, located near the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant. He has dedicated much of his time to teaching others about gardening and helping to start or manage community gardens.

A longtime gardener, Sam has participated in several contests and has received many awards, including second place in the City's 1983 Garden Contest. The Eastwick Garden Associates has been chosen as a semi-finalist in a contest sponsored by the makers of Glad Trash Bags. They will also particiapte in the upcoming Community Garden Association First-Time-Ever National Community Gardening Contest.

Gubbi R. Krishnappa, Design, received his Pennsylvania Professional Engineer License in March 1984.

Bernita Riley, formerly a clerk typist in the Bureau of Laboratory Services Division, recently transferred to the Pumping Division.

Karen Needle transferred from the Revenue Department to replace Berita.

Leroy Dandridge, Materials Testing Laboratory, was awarded a Life Membership to the American Society for Metals (ASM). An ASM Life Member is an individual member in good standing, who has reached 65 years old and whose years of membership combined with his age equal 100 or more. Mr. Dandridge received his life membership award, a plaque commemorating his membership milestone, at the ASM Honors and Awards meeting in May 1984.

Also, in April 1984, Mr. Dandridge and his wife Blanche, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

Tracey Crocker, daughter of Theresa Crocker, Distribution, graduated from the Philadelphia High School for Girls in June. She now attends Temple University and her major is business law.

Mrs. Arcenia Anderson, Chicago, Illinois, celebrated her 100th birthday on June 4. She is the grandmother of Jamie Ellison, Materials Testing Laboratory.

Rickie Daniels, daughter of Arnold Freedman, Design, played the lead part in the musical show, "Anything Goes" at Bucknell University in June.

Mary Smith, Clerk Typist I, transferred to the Prisons after twenty-three years of service with the Distribution Unit. She was presented a gold charm with the number "23" on it by her co-workers at a dinner in her honor.

The Eastwick Garden Associates has been chosen as a semi-finalist in a contest sponsored by the makers of Glad Trash Bags. They will also participate in the upcoming Community Garden Association First-Time-Ever National Community Gardening Contest.

**Denise works out at health club.**

## Female Body Builder The Department's First

Denise Clayton, Personnel, has been an active body builder for almost two years. She has participated in several exhibitions and on June 23 competed in her first amateur bodybuilding competition in Norristown, Pa.

Denise initially became interested in the hobby while working at an area health spa. After a year of working out to keep fit, she became interested in body building competitions for females. She trains, two to four hours, six nights a week.

Although she has yet to win any competitions, Denise continues to gain exposure as one of the few female body builders. She was a contestant in an another competition in August 1984, and plans to train a litle longer before the next one.

Bob Miziorko and Joe Roman, both of the Bureau of Laboratory Services, had a successful fishing trip catching crappies and crabs at Knotts Island, N.C.

## Water Department Volleyball League

Once again earlier this year, a volleyball league was held for Water Department employees at Plaisted hall along Boathouse Row. For the fourth year, eight teams (Administration, Design, Northeast Construction, Planning & Research, Southeast Construction, Southwest Construction, Southwest Operations, and Water Operations) competed in league play. The caliber of play has improved tremendously since the inception of the league four years ago. What started as a recreational activity has evolved into a highly competitive sport.

The four teams advancing to the playoffs were Design (undefeated in the regular season), Southeast Construction (in its first year of competition), Northeast Construction (last year's champs), and Planning & Research making its first playoff appearance. In the first round of the playoffs, Southeast Construction ended the championship reign of Northeast Construction, while Design upended an inspired Planning & Research team. In the best-of-five finals Southeast Construction became this year's champs in an intense match with Design by scores of 15-12, 16-14, and 15-13.

Congratulations should be extended to all who participated in this year's league, especially the championship team from Southeast Construction, captained by Joanne Dahme. Hopefully, this year's enthusiasm in the league is a sign of continued interest in the volleyball league now.

## Volleyball Marathon

Several employees of the Department organized a team for the 1984 Easter Seal Volleyball Marathon. The event was held in February, and over $45,000.00 was raised for the Easter Seal Society.

Team members were: Deborah McCarthy, Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant; Mike Hogan, Fiscal; Mike Pickel, Belmont Plant; Jerry Vetter, Sludge Management Unit; James Harrigan, Art Fagerstrom, Philip Kalnitsky and Drew Brown, Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant.

The team was awarded a trophy for the highest points scored during the Marathon.

**Aleah Getting Ready for Performance**

## Employee of Distribution Stars in "Madame Butterfly"

On May 31 and June 2, Aleah Hyman, Distribution, performed in Opera Ebony's production of Puccini's Madame Butterfly, at the Academy of Music. This event marked the company's 10th anniversary, and Aleah, a soprano with the company's chorus, has performed in five of its productions since its inception.

Aleah began singing at age 8 at the Fist Schwenkfelder Church in North Philadelphia. She also trained at the Settlement Music School. For eight years, she sang with the Community College Singers, traveling throughout the east coast. One of her greatest moments was singing at Carnegie Hall with Doug Carne, a jazz artist.

She has performed with Opera Ebony in the following productions: "Aida," "Faust," "Marriage of Figaro," and "Iltravatore."

Other performances include Freedom Theatre's "One Acre at a Time," and Sonia Sanchez's "What Happened to Malcolm X."

## WEDDINGS

**Joan Williams, Logan Garage, to William Freeman on February 18.**

**Joe Cappella, Projects Control, to Carol Kukla on July 21.**

**Michelle Duffy to David Cassel on April 7, 1984. She is the daughter of Joe Duffy, Finance.**

**Wayne Cook to Treda Copes on May 19, 1984. He is the son of William Cook, Distribution.**

## BIRTHS

**David Robb, SEWPCP, a baby boy on December 21, 1983.**

**Dennis Rocks, Automotive Maintenance, a baby girl on January 17, 1984.**

**George Harvey, Emergency and Support Services, a baby great-grandson on January 24, 1984.**

**Arnold Freedman, Design, a baby grandson on February 27, 1984.**

**Rich Murray, Design, a baby boy on March 5, 1984.**

**Jim Rothdeutsch, Design, twin baby boys on March 29, 1984.**

**Phil Downs, Data Management Center, a baby boy on April 14, 1984.**

**Stephen Ballay, Data Management Center, a baby girl on April 25, 1984.**

**Marietta Green, Metering, a baby boy on June 1, 1984.**

**Liz shown with her many cards and flowers.**

## Employee Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Employees of the Finance Unit recently shared a few precious moments with a co-worker, Mary 'Liz' Thompson, by surprising her with cards, flowers and a beautiful cake to celebrate her 30th year with the Water Department.

Mrs. Thompson joined the department on October 24, 1954. She previously worked in the Universal Metering Unit, Capital Improvements Unit and is currently a member of the Rate Analysis Unit.

She received an Associate Degree in Applied Sciences from Community College of Philadelphia in May, 1972.

An active member in the St. Matthew A.M.E. Church and a member of the Pinn Memorial Sanctuary Choir, she has received many awards, including the Legion of Honor Award from the Chapel of the Four Chaplains on October 16, 1983.

The mother of two sons and grandmother of six, one of her favorite hobbies is decorating for banquets, weddings and parties.

Liz, admits that she is counting down. She does not know how much longer she will remain in the work force. In the meantime, she says, "I just take it one day at a time."

## Barry Goes To The Movies

Barry Brait, Finance, is featured in a soon to be released movie "Called Home" starring Harrison Ford. Barry is a part-time actor who was filmed as an extra in a scene at the 30th Street Train Station. He has appeared in other entertainment and industrial films. In case you don't recognize him immediately, it's because he was filmed from the waist down.

# WINTER '84 BLOOD DRIVE

During February and March of this year, the Department's employees showed once more how much they care for the needs of the community. They showed it by doing something that is quick, simple, and can be done by almost anyone, but which can mean life or death for a seriously ill person. They did it by giving blood.

In this, the second Departmental blood drive in less than seven months, over 150 employees volunteered to give blood, 20 of whom were first-time donors. Since each pint of blood donated can be used to help up to five separate patients, a total of more than 600 patients benefitted from the drive. The Department also had a record number of what the Red Cross calls "extraordinary donors." These are people who have given a total of a gallon or more of blood, or who have participated in the pheresis donation program. The pheresis program is a special type of donation in which only one component of the blood is taken from the donor. It can take as long as three hours to complete a single donation of this type.

The following is a partial list of the extraordinary donors who participated in the **Winter '84 Drive:**

**One Gallon Donors** include Frederick Campbell, Distribution; anthony Micciolo, Southwest Abatement; Richard Roy, Plant Expansion Program Administration; Robert Snyder and Hyland Butcher, Baxter Plant.

**One-to-Two Gallon Donors** include John Hunt, Customer Service; Brenda Fischer, Inlet Cleaning; Phil Sheau, Personnel; Kevin O'Rourke, Sludge Management; Norman Weintraub, Conveyance; Merl Pettet and Francis Gola, Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant; George Siomko, Fiscal; Gerson Korntreger, Bureau of Laboratory Services; Bill McKeon, George Myers, Robert Miziorko and John McDevitt, Baxter Plant.

**Two Gallons-Plus Donors** include Robert Richards, Gerard Pawlowski and William Horger, Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant; James Workman, Inlet Cleaning; Cardell Williams, Distribution; Calvin Summers, Belmont Filters; and Kanthala Narangasararana, Baxter Plant.

Four of our employees have been particularly active in the blood donor program: Steve Tilney, Sludge Management Unit, and Joseph Scott, Baxter Plant, who have donoted more than **three gallons of blood** to the Red Cross; George Holmes, Baxter Plant, who has donated more than **four gallons,** and Frank Fie of the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant, who has made **41 separate donations, or a total of more than five gallons of blood.**

Recent participants in the pheresis donation program include Barry Brait of Fiscal; Michael Hogan of Fiscal; Mark Mills of Personnel; and Rob Schimmel of Conveyance.

The Department should be proud of all these "extraordinary donors." However, just as in the Fall '83 Blood Drive, much of the credit for the Water Department's great turnout is due to the recruiters who worked within the individual units. These recruiters included Matthew Berg of Water Pollution Control Administration; Barry Brait of Fiscal; John Craney of Customer Service; William Douglass of Inlet Cleaning; George Harvey of Emergency and Support Services; Yasmeen MacIntosh of the Data Management Center; Rochelle Moore of Sewer Maintenance; Joseph Mullen of Collector Systems; David Poff of Load Control; Rob Schimmel of Conveyance; Donna Schwartz of Industrial Waste; Paul Siegel of Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant; Laura Spitz of Abatement; and Frank Vinci of Sludge Management. Two recruiters in particular drummed up a large number of volunteers: Jeanetta Muckefuse of Design, with 23 volunteers, and Michael Elia of Distribution, who had 34 volunteers.

These people devoted a lot of time and effort to the blood drive, but their efforts would have been meaningless without your generosity. On behalf of the Red Cross and the more than 600 people your contributions helped, thank you.

Pipeline is published by the Customer Affairs Department for the employees of the Water Department.

Maureen Sullivan ..... Editor

One Reading Center—5th Floor

## WHO IS THIS MAN?


Captain Sewer flies through the sewers of the world fighting germs, pollution, clogged drains and dirty inlets. He first appeard in the **Broom Hilda** comic strip drawn by Russell Myers. Mr. Myers sketched the portrait of Captain Sewer for the Water Department.

Many years ago our Chief of the Collector System came to me witha comic strip which featured Captain Sewer. He demanded that we adopt this adorable creature as our mascot. With concurrence from the cartoonist, Captain Sewer was adopted by the Water Department. At first, his presence was felt in name only. An award was created — "The Coveted Captain Sewer Award." And believe it or not, the award was considered prestigious and coveted. A secret nominating committee was established (only the author knows of them and can forward recommendations), and only the most outstanding individuals in the environmental field were conferred the award.

Time passed and one day Carmen Guarino retired from the Commissioners hip of the Water Department. While arranging the details of his retirement banquet, a vision came to me — why not bring Captain Sewer to life? A look-alike contest was quickly scheduled, a winner picked and costumed, and Captain Sewere made his debut at the retirement banquet.

Carmen Guarino will never forget Captain Sewer. However, what had started as a theatrical adventure didn't stop there. Captain Sewer was alive and his presence couldn't be denied. The Captain appeared at employee retirement banquets, United Way kick-off meetings, department picnics, and became the subject of employee morale boosters. Captain Sewer "T" shirts, belt buckles, coffee mugs and duffel bags were developed and used as employee awards for perfect attendance. These personalized gifts became as coveted as the original award.

Beyond this, Captain Sewer was adopted by Mayor W. Wilson Goode and used to promote the Clean Philadelphia Campaign. He became a celebrity with his weekly visits to targeted clean up areas. Could TV be far behind? Captain Sewer recently starred on a public service announcement aired on all Philadelphia stations which addressed the misuse of street drains as trash cans.

But what of this comic strip to life, rags to riches sewer story? What's the point, Nelson?

A simple character appearing once in a comic strip now is somewhat of a household word. Employees take a little more pride in their job because of this character. Citizens know of him and, to an extent, have more of an appreciation for the Water Department. Without a great deal of sophistication and probably mostly by accident, Captain Sewer has been a booster to morale and public relations.

**By Michael D. Nelson**

## New Word Processing Center

The Water Department's Word Processing Center has finally arrived. The center began operation on Monday, October 1, under the direction of Ms. Rosemary Hogan, Word Processing Manager. Former of Central Personnel. Ms. Hogan has been with this department since August, 1984.

Nine persons were selected from various units within the department to be trained as operators in the new center. Seven operators; Shealynn Brown, Darlene Crawford, Barbara Moreira, Deborah Mu'Min, Roseta Pedro, Joyce Schmidt and Cereta Turcks, are stationed in One Reading Center and two at 29th and Cambria Streets, Marietta Green and Rocehlle Moore.

The center located on the 3rd floor of One Reading Center is equipped with new CPT Model 8515 Word Processors. All material is stored on floppy discs which hold approximately 125 pages of printed material. The machines are capable of doing such functions as sorting, page numbering, line graphics and centering. There is a letter quality impact printer and a wide track printer for extra wide paper. Also, there's a Xerox 7500 laster printer which is capable of printing on both sides of the paper, collating, stapling and can also be used as a copy machine.

## Outstanding Achievement Award

The Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant was selected as the "Outstanding Engineering Achievement in Sanitary Engineering in the Delaware Valley" for 1984 by the Philadelphia Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers.

The award is presented annually during National Engineers Week (February 17-25) to a project which demonstrates exceptional engineering skills and makes notable contributions to engineering progress and society.

This is the second award of this type the plant has received. The first was given by the American Society of Civil Engineers in 1982.

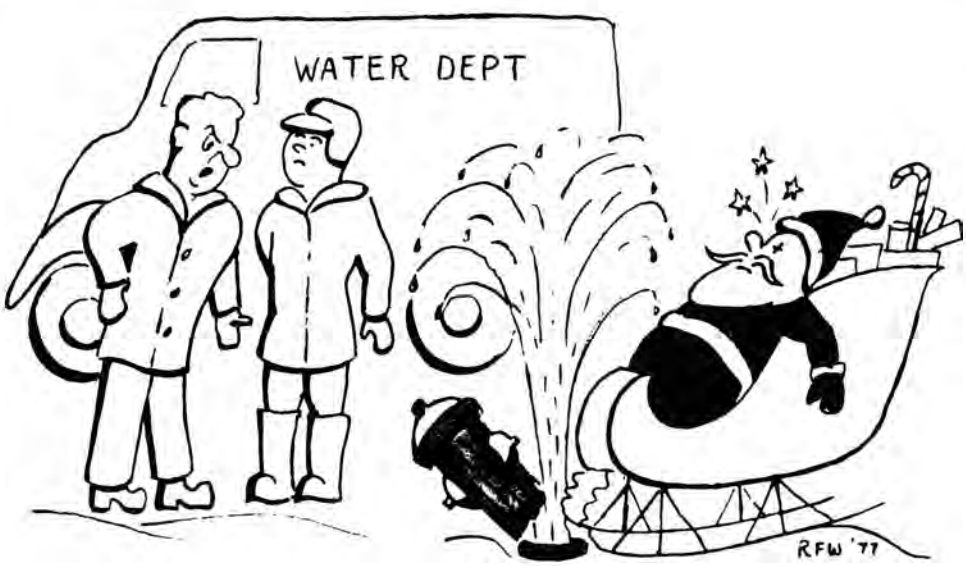
## Weight Loss Program

Following a surgical operation on his right ankle and a subsequent ten-week recuperation period, in May 1983 Michael Pence, Planning and Research, joined the Trevose Behavior Modification Program for Weight Loss and Maintenance. Six months later, he had reached his goal of a 25 lb. weight los and has maintained that loss. Michael has since received leadership training from the Trevose Behavior Modification Program (the study group used by the University of Pennsylvania Behavior Clinic) and will be co-leading a new satellite group with Elizabeth McKeon, also of Planning and Research, in the Municipal Services Building. Elizabeth is also a graduate of the program since 1981, sustaining a 40 lb. weight loss, and she directs several satellite groups around the City.

The program is exceptionally stringent and requires rigorous attention to record keeping and detail to identify unsatisfactory behavior which leads to eating problems. IT IS NOT A "DIET." The response to the program in the MSB was overwhelming by City workers, and the new group that began May 24 is full. However, if anyone has a minimum of 25 lbs. to lose and would like to be put on a waiting list, make application to either Elizabeth or Michael in Room 1270 MSB and be prepared for a waiting period of at least six months and probably longer.

## RETIREES

| NAME | UNIT | DATE | YEARS OF SERVICE |
|---|---|---|---|
| David Alexander | Building Maintenance | 1/30/84 | 20 |
| Nicholas Avent | Sewer Maintenance | 2/3/84 | 33 |
| Elmer Barnes | Belmont Filters | 12/29/83 | 14 |
| Louis Barnes, Jr. | Distribution | 4/24/84 | 27 |
| Bernard Burse | Northeast—WPCP | 8/7/84 | 27 |
| Augustine Casadonti | Belmont Filters | 1/19/84 | 29 |
| Raymond Chalmers | Central Stores | 7/24/84 | 13 |
| Leroy Dandridge | Materials Testing Laboratory | 8/13/84 | 10 |
| Claude Dean | Distribution | 4/5/84 | 28 |
| Joe Duke | Pumping | 1/23/84 | 25 |
| Algy Edmonds | Data Management Center | 1/25/84 | 28 |
| Francis Gallagher | Distribution | 8/7/84 | 30 |
| Ellison Giddins | Distribution | 5/18/84 | 21 |
| Alberta Hairston | Northeast—WPCP | 2/3/84 | 28 |
| John Hoefler | Northeast—WPCP | 8/7/84 | 15 |
| Michael Inglese | Sewer Maintenance | 8/10/84 | 21 |
| Eva Jester | Customer Service | 1/5/84 | 21 |
| Wilmer Johnson | Automotive Maintenance | 3/21/84 | 13 |
| Stanley Kabosker | Load Control | 2/28/84 | 24 |
| Nicholas Klimo | Meter Shop | 7/13/84 | 12 |
| George Lawrence | Distribution | 5/1/84 | 29 |
| Frank Martelli | Construction | 2/29/84 | 21 |
| Robert Miller | Survey | 12/14/83 | 35 |
| Charles Muehlhof | Construction | 3/9/84 | 19 |
| Robert Rabiger | Northeast—WPCP | 5/10/84 | 27 |
| Lee Randall | Emergency & Support Services | 2/7/84 | 31 |
| John Reeves | Materials Testing Laboratory | 5/21/84 | 24 |
| Albert Seifert | Building Maintenance | 5/18/84 | 9 |
| Charles Slaughter | Inlet Cleaning | 7/16/84 | 27 |
| John Smith | Sewer Maintenance | 7/30/84 | 22 |
| Russell Thomas | Customer Service | 4/23/84 | 30 |
| William Traynor | Distribution | 4/5/84 | 29 |
| George Tucker | Southwest—WPCP | 5/9/84 | 30 |




**"I don't care who he is, send him the repair bill!"**

## Train Lover Rides To Maine

Hervey Lesch, Northeast Abatement, was the sole passenger on subway cars 1023 and 1018 during a 400 mile trip to Maine this Spring. Lesch, a lover of trains and trolleys, accompanied the cars to a trolley museum in Maine where they will be restored for public exhibit.

The cars are remnants of the Broad Street Subway and were once destined for the scrap pile. However, the metal monstrosities were purchased for one dollar each by the New England Electric Railway Historical Society Inc., which is basedin Kennebunkport, Maine.

This organization of trolley and subway car enthusiasts arranged for them to be towed to their museum for restoration. At the museum, the trains will join a collection of at least 150 other pieces of mass transit equipment collected from around the country and world.

# PIPELINE

WATER DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES

**SUMMER EDITION 1985**


## Sludge Management:
### Effective Resource Recovery

The Water Department's three water pollution control facilities handle approximately 550 million gallons per day of wastewater from Philadelphia and adjacent suburban communities. The treatment plants produce 55,000 dry tons of sludge each year as a by product of the wastewater treatment process. Philadelphia's sludge is digested and dewatered at two of the three plants. All dewatered sludge is processed at the department's Compost Facility adjacent to the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant. Close monitoring and supervision ensure that all sludge products meet high quality and environmental safety standards.

In its untreated state, wastewater contains varying amounts of potentially harmful chemicals and biological contaminants. Many contaminants are removed from wastewater, using state of the art treatment processes. The sludge that results from that treatment is further processed (composted) to reduce any remaining undesirable ingredients to such minimum levels so that they pose no threat to the environment. In fact, Philadelphia's sludge products are in demand for fertilizing farmlands, tree nurseries, sod farms, gardens, lawns, golf courses, parks and recreation fields.

Since 1980, the department has been increasing its ability to compost and utilize sludge through land application methods. The Sludge Management Unit has been a pioneer in perfecting methods for recycling sludge and also has a national reputation for the quality of its products. The most widely used of these are its composted sludge products, including **PHILORGANIC,** a coarse compost for home and farm use; **EARTHLIFE,** a finely screened compose for garden, greenhouse, nursery and landscape applications and **MINEMIX,** used on farms and to revegetate lands left barren by stripmining.

Composting is a sludge processing method which uses woodchips and sludge cake to produce a humus-like product. The process was developed by the United States Department of Agriculture and is designed to generate a safe product, free of pathogens and viruses. The department's compost makes an ideal soil conditioner. It is low in heavy metals, rich in nutrients and is consequently well received by the agricultural and horticultural community. The department receives about $1.00 per ton for composted material.

*(cont. page 2)*

## CPR Instructor Saves A Life

On Wednesday, February 20, 1985 Norman Lofton, Sewer Maintenance, saved a woman's life by performing CPR.

Lofton, Crew Chief 2, was driving on north "D" Street when a woman stopped his car and said her mother was not breathing and was slumped over the seat. He immediately went to her aid and informed another pedestrian to call for the rescue team. Lofton, a certified CPR instructor, applied two minutes of CPR and her breathing was restored. The Fire Rescue Team arrived and informed Lofton he had saved the life of a woman in serious need of assistance.

Lofton never had second thoughts of helping the woman saying, "I was overhwelmingly nervous afterwards." An instructor for over a year, he has certified more than fifty people in the City's CPR Program. This was his first time of ever using the training and he reached the utlimate when he helped save a life.

Lofton is proud to be a part of the Water Department family. "As a City servant, helping people is part of my job. Being the foreman, I owed it to my crew members to become a CPR instructor," he stated.

A City employee for 15 years, he's been with the department since 1972 working at the Northeast and Southwest Water Pollution Control Plants. He began with the Sewer Maintenance Unit in 1978 and modestly admits, "I am a dedicated worker and I give no less than 110% at all times."

**Norman Lofton, Crew Chief II and CPR Instructor.**

He enjoys listening to music in his spare time and has a record collection of over 1,900 albums. He also studies and teaches martial arts and various other forms of self defense. During the last four years, Lofton has donated two gallons (16 pints) of blood to the American Red Cross.

Mayor W. Wilson Goode has personally commended Lofton on his actions, stating in a letter, "You are indeed a splendid example of the commitment of our City employees whose dedication goes far beyond their mandated duties in the service of their fellow citizens." More commendations are forthcoming from the Police, Fire and Health Departments and the Philadelphia Health Management Corporation that administers the CPR Program throughout the City.

Everyone in the Water Department is proud of Norman Lofton for his outstanding life saving efforts.

## Sludge Management (cont.)

There are five basic steps in the sludge treatment and composting process. Sludge is then utilitzed in five programs: marketing, bulk applications, giveaway, stripmine reclamation and special projects.

Delchem Services is in its fourth year of a five year agreement to market screened compost. They sold 25% of the total compost generated by the department in fiscal year 1984. The giveaway of composted products to the public continues to be the least expensive utilization technique. Residents can get free products at the Northeast and Southwest Plants. The bulk application program provides unscreened compost or unscreened minemix for agricultural use and landfill revegetation and has been expanded to replace the liquid sludge application program. In 1984, sludge applications were used on the following locations: Belmont Plateau, Neshaminy State Park, Swarthmore College and Lancaster County farmlands. Due to public opposition in western Pennsylvania, delays in obtaining sufficient permits and numeous bidding problems, only one stripmine site, Isers Run, was reclaimed last year. However, 15 to 20% of the total compost produced will be used for stripmine reclamation this coming summer.

The ECOROCK process converts dewatered sludge and incinerator residue into road aggregate, which can be used by the Streets Department to repair and replace old paving. The project is currently being evaluated to determine its economic and environmental feasibility.

Over the next two years, the department will construct a Sludge Processing and Distribution Center. This new facility will increase the department's composting capacity to over 300 dry tons per day and provide a more cost effective operation through modern equipment and site layout. This new site will allow the department to not only process all sludge generated by the three wastewater treatment plants, but may also provide additional sludge management services to nearby communities. Recently, the department has reached an agreement with Camden County to process 50 to 100 tons of sludge per day. The composted product is transported back to New Jersery for land application programs. In return, Philadelphia is able to apply composted products in New Jersery.

Public acceptance is crucial to the success of any sludge management program and cannot be secured solely by the technical improvements or research in health effects. The department has realized that it has the primary responsibility for fostering favorable public attitudes and consequently, is placing more emphasis on marketing efforts of composted products for home, commercial and professional use.

**Sludge composting: mixing and screening operation.**

# Drought Emergency

**Filming the Hydrant Public Service announcement for Drought Emergency and Hydrant Abuse Program.**

On Friday, April 26, 1985, Governor Dick Thornburgh proclaimed a drought emergency in 16 eastern Pennsylvania counties. The declaration sets in place a number of mandatory restrictions on water use in the region and also provides penalties for violators.

This region's drinking water sources, the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers are managed cooperatively by a four state agreement which guarantees fresh water supplies to small communities and large cities in the Delaware River Basin. A number of factors have led to an extremely serious drought situation in the Delaware River Basin, which provides drinking water to more than 15 million people in New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania. A mild winter with less snowfall than normal, combined with a dry spring, has caused our reserviors, groundwater levels and streams to be very low for this time of year.

The City of Philadelphia is participating in the drought program primarily to preserve the water quality of the river. The quality is maintained by normal river flow which prevents the invasion of salt water to the Philadelphia fresh water intakes.

The drought plan provides for a maximum of $500 fine and up to 90 days in jail for violators of the restrictions on water use.

Water uses prohibited under the drought include:

- Lawn watering
- Automobile and truck washing
- Watering of gardens, landscaped areas, trees and shurbs by any means other than a hand held hose with an automatic shut-off nozzle or with a bucket, between the hours of 5 p.m. and 9 a.m.
- Filling swimming pools, unless they filter and recycle water
- Watering of golf course fairways
- Washing of paved surfaces, including streets, sidewalks, driveways, parking areas, patio and tennis courts
- Use of any water for ornamental purposes, including fountains, artificial waterfalls and reflecting pools
- Serving of water in restaurants, clubs or eating places unless specifically requested by a customer.

Moderation of water use by our customers, neighboring communities and states during this drought will protect the City's water quality and avoid hardship if the situation continues.

# Water Department Plays Host

**Fionnula Quinn, Briege Burke, Don Coyle and Ray Ryan.**

In September, the Water Department welcomed four visitors from Ireland. Ray Ryan, Briege Burke, Fionnuala Quinn and Don Coyle arrived in Philadelphia to participate in a Department sponsored training program. The engineers will spend one year working in the department, as part of the Anco Industrial Training Program.

Initially, the Irish group of four spent six weeks touring the Department to learn the specific functions of each unit. Ray, Don, Breige and Fionnuala chose a unit that sparked their interest to work in the rest of they stay.

Briege is a chemist and chose to work with the Industrial Waste Unit. Don and Ray, mechanical and civil engineers respectively, opted to train with the Northeast Construction Unit. Fionnuala works as a civil engineer with the Sludge Management Unit.

Ireland itself is about the size of New Jersey. It is populated by approximately 3.5 million people. Fionnuala is from Ireland's largest city and its capital, Dublin, Don's hometown, Drogheda is located just north of Dublin. Drogheda and Dublin lie on the coast of the Irish Sea. Breige and Ray are from opposite ends of the country. Breige hails from Derry in the extreme north and Ray from Cork, in the far south.

Since their first week, things have settled down. Fionnuala contends, "everyone's made us feel really welcomed. We've gotten on great here." Don has joined a soccer team and Breige often visits the University of Pennsylvania's gym. In her spare time, Fionnuala teaches English conversation to foreign students at the International House. As a group, all four have learned to ski in the Poconos.

Fionnuala claims the most unusual thing about America is earmuffs. "I can't believe people really wear those things in public. They don't wear them at home." There are other differences, too. "Here cars are on the wrong side, light switches are upside down, doors open backwards and faucets turn-on wrong. It's confusing."

The pace of life is quicker in America, according to Briege. Fionnuala misses the sight of familiar faces. Ray and Don, "miss Salley O'Brien and the way she might look at ye and de pin of Harp."

Fionnuala, Don, Ray and Briege continue to make friends both professionally and socially. Briege expressed the group's gratitude. "It's nice to have this opportunity to offer our thanks to everyone in the Water Department for helping us at work and to settle in."

The Irish government couldn't have picked four more suitable goodwill ambassadors.

# The New Employee Suggestion Program

A new and innovative Employee Suggestion Program is coming to the Water Department. Similar to programs throughout private and public industries, employees will receive cash awards for creative and new ideas that improve quality, employee relations, working conditions and produce better methods to economically benefit the department as well as, its customers.

A committee consisting of a chairperson and representatives from each division and union will oversee the program. All employees are eligible to submit suggestions. The Committee will evaluate the proposals and decide whether or not they should be adopted by the Department. There are two general types of suggestions:

**TYPE I**

Will provide direct and measurable dollar savings in the cost of Water Department operations. Savings will be measured in terms of reduced production hours, reduced cost of materials, or other cost reduction in an operation. Award amounts will be 10% of the first year savings, from $50 to $5,000.

**TYPE II**

Will improve the working conditions of employees or provide better services to customers, but does not necessarily provide measurable dollar savings in the cost of operations. Award amounts will range from $50 to $100. The committee will use a merit system to determine the exact amount.

After July 1, guidelines governing the program will be made available to everyone. If you have any further questions, contact Jim Aleo at 592-6169.

# Safety Awareness

The Emergency and Support Services Unit has been conducting safety meetings for its and other departmental employees. Recently, Officer John Long, Pennsylvania State Police, was the guest speaker on the topic of traffic safety, more specifically drunken driving and seat belt useage. He brought along two films, "Know When To Say When" about driving under the influence of alcohol and "Room to Live" about the importance of wearing seat belts. Both films were informative and eye awakening to everyone that was present.

In the State of Pennsylvania, the legal level of alcohol in the blood system is .10%, beyond that you are considered intoxicated. If you are stopped for drunken driving, refusal to take a Breathalizer Test will admit to your guilt. If tried and found guilty, the mandatory sentence is $1000 fine, 90 days imprisonment and automatic suspension of your license for one year.

If you are involved in an auto accident and you're wearing a seat belt, you have a greater chance of living. Fifty thousand people die every year as a result of auto accidents and not using a seat belt. There are many excuses for not wearing a seat belt, but only a seat belt can prevent you from being thrown out of a car travelling 35 mph.

# I-95 Rescue By Walter Scipio Of Inlet Cleaning

While enroute to work on I-95 the morning of April 18, 1985, Walter Scipio, Inlet Cleaning, sighted an occupied car on fire. The car had struck the concrete medial stirp. With no thought to his own safety, other than saying a prayer for guidance, he quickly stopped to help. In the car was an injured woman, who appeared to be in a great deal of pain and was later diagnosed as having a compound fracture of the ankle and leg as well as, a fractured hip. While calming the victim and listening to her needs, he evaluated her injuries and administered first aid. Two other passersby, one identifying himself as an off-duty police officer, arrived on the scene. Walter removed the lady from the burning vehicle shortly before it became completely engulfed in flames. The two rear tires of the car were the only parts of the car not burning upon the arrival of the Philadelphia Fire Department.

Walter Scipio, later visiting the woman in the hospital, found out that he had saved the life of a neighbor of a fellow worker. BRAVO WALTER!

# Certificate of Honor

In a ceremony held in the Adam's Mark Hotel on May 13th, the American Red Cross awarded a Blood Donor Certificate of Honor to the Philadelphia Water Department, in recognition of their outstanding number of blood donations during the past year. In 1984 Water Department employees donated 521 pints of blood in a series of three drives, during the spring, summer and fall of the year. This exceeds the total number of blood donations mady by department employees during the past five years combined. And because each pint of blood donated can be used to help up to five people, this extraordinary act of generosity by department employees helped as many as 2600 seriously ill people.

No one person or group of people can be pointed to as having been instrumental in the success of this drive; this was truly a group effort. From the volunteers in each unit who recruited and organized the donors, to the managers who reorganized work schedules to allow donors in their units time to donate, to the donors themselves, who rolled up their sleeves and gave a part of themselves to help needy people, everyone put forth a fantastic effort. On behalf of the American Red Cross and the hundreds of patients helped by your generosity, thank you all.

# A New Captain Sewer

**Captain Sewer with honorees at Zero Sick Leave luncheon.**

Recently, the Water Pollution Control Division convened a secret meeting to select a new Captain Sewer. Captain Sewer is the Department's "official goodwill ambassador" who flies through sewer inlets and informs the citizenry not to use them as trash cans.

All of the Water Pollution Control subresponsibility centers were represented with both contestants and judges. The ten contestants were interviewed and judged on a twenty point scale in the categories of Judgement, Communication, Temperament, Appearance and Reliability. All of the entrants scored over 200 out of 300 available points and the top three finalists were within twenty points.

Judges, Kevin O'Rourke, Sludge Management, Leon Williams, Northeast Water Pollution Control, and Dolores Jones, Sewer Maintenance had some difficult choices to make. By the way, don't bother asking them who won — they're sworn to secrecy.

# New Child Care Facility

The Water Department has entered into an agreement with Hahnemann University and Philadelphia Newspapers, Inc. to sponsor its first child care program for its employees.

The child care center will be located at 15th and Race Streets on the ground floor of Hahnemann's Bellet Building. The new modern facility will provide bright and modern classrooms, a play area, outdoor play space, an isolation area for sick children and kitchenettes. The program will consist of more than custodial care: fully qualified teachers will provide stimulating activities to help the children to develop their coordination, motor, physical and social skills. The program is available to infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers. It will be in full operation beginning September 1, 1985 and will be open from 6:45 a.m. to 11:45 p.m., to provide care for children of parents who are working afternoon and evening shifts. To be eligible, you must be an employee of the Water Department. The department has limited slots available and applications will be solicited in the near future.

For more information call the Personnel Office at 592-6121.

# Community Affairs Officer

Matthew Miller joined the Water Department's Customer Affairs Division on May 15 to plan, organize, and coordinate community affairs associated with the Department's sludge management programs. His immediate responsibilities involve public relations in western Pennsylvania counties where strip-mine reclamation programs are utilizing a processed sludge product called "mine mix" for revegetating disturbed lands. Matt's interest and experience in resource recovery and ecological land management makes his job an appropriate and challenging one.

Outside of his job, Matt is an active recycler of household waste which has led to ongoing volunteer work with the public-interest group "Philadelphians for Recycling" and in developing a comprehensive recycling plan for the City of Philadelphia. He hopes to expand his work to assist the Water Department in developing a waste paper recycling program of its own.

# Three Of A Kind

Charles Kitchen hit the jackpot. The lucky winner held three newborn babies.

On February 6, 1985, Charles Kitchen of Sludge Management and Arlene Anderson became the proud parents of triplets. Arlene gave birth to Chad, Charles Lee and Charlene at Albert Einstein Medical Center's Northern Division.

The triplets were the first set born at Albert Einstein in 10 years. Charles, an Equipment Operator I, was informed that only one of every 81,000 births are triplets. Charles and Arlene beat the odds, without the use of fertility drugs. It is also astounding that neither parent has a family history of multiple births.

After the triplets were born, the boys were allowed to go home. Charlene stayed in the hospital to gain weight and strength. At home, Charles Lee and Chad were kept on a four hour feeding schedule. Charles and Arlene slept in shifts. During the day, a sister-in-law and a nurse provided support. Even Eric and Aaron (the couple's other children), did "little jobs to help," Charles explains.

On February 22, 1985 the happy event took place. All three babies were at home. Charles feels the triplets are "a great challenge." He sums the experience up saying, "I'm still on Cloud 9!" Congratulations to Charles and Arlene.

**Charles, Charlene and Chad.**

# Successful Sled Dog Racing Season

On Super Bowl Sunday, January 19, 1985, while most of America was glued to their T.V. sets, Kevin O'Rourke, Sludge Management, was participating in his first sled dog race of the 1985 season. The Pennsylvania Sled Dog Cross Country Championship, a 50 mile, 6 dog race, was held in Louis Run, Pennsylvania. Kevin's racing team of Siberian huskies included 6 of the 25 dogs he co-owns with a friend. He complete the race in just 8 hours and ranked 6 our of 21.

The two dogs in the front of each team are called lead dogs. The lead dogs respond directly to commands given by the driver. Lead dogs set the team's pace and sometimes become fatigued during the race.

Kevin has had his troubles with lead dogs in the past. In his first 60 mile race, "going up a long hill in the dark, the lead dogs just stopped and wouldn't go. They all laid down, curled up and fell asleep. I tried to pull them. I promised them the world. When the next team came by they followed them in." But that wasn't the end to Kevin's lead dog problems. "The same thing happened in the next race, only 1 mile from the end of the race. They woke up only after 5 teams has passed them."

Kevin has learned from his experiences. Now he switches lead dogs, during a race, to give them a rest. "Lead dogs get tired physically and mentally. Alternating the dogs lets them rest and all the dogs finish the race."

Now that this year's racing season is over, Kevin plans to "hang the dogs in a closet til it gets cold." Kevin rarely exercises the dogs during the summer. "It's too hot for them."

Next year Kevin will add a new race to his schedule, a 150 mile race in Marmora, Ontario. This race will be run with an unlimited number of dogs. Racers will use between 10 and 12 dogs. Dogs are left along the race course as they tire, to be picked up by the racer's handler. This race will take over 24 hours to complete. Good luck Kevin.

# Will The Real Coach Please Stand Up!

The operations group of SMU has more than its fair share of coaches. **Gene Gruber,** Operations Manager, has been coaching CYO Basketball at St. Joseph's Church in Cheltenham for 12 years. In addition to leading high school students at St. Joe's, Gene plays basketball in several leagues, including the Oreland and Abington League. One team he played with, named Justice, was mainly composed of Detention Center prison guards. The team stole the Philadlephia Municipal Employees Recreation League Championship in 1982.

"I've been in a lot of leagues," says Gene of his ongoing participation in the the sport. Gene describes his various basketball teams as "spread all over the City, just like Philly sludge."

Sludge Management's Utilization Manager, **Jerry Vetter,** has coached soccer for the past nine years. Jerry coaches all age groups. This year he coached a 9 to 12 year olds team for the Philadelphia's Department of Recreation that made the first round of playoffs. Jerry believes that children learn as team members, sportsmanship and how to get along with others.

Jerry is a player-coach for a second soccer team in the Inter County Soccer League. Two of his teammates are Water Department employees, Kevin O'Rourke and Don Coyle, from Ireland. Normally reserved, Jerry is outspoken when it comes to soccer. Jerry claims soccer players are "smarter than football players."

Jerry dishes out constructive criticism in healthy doses. "Don Coyle can score goals and Kevin O'Rourke is good when he listens," says Jerry. Kevin describes Jerry as "a coach who sees better from the sidelines. On the field his vision is blurred." Jerry plays when only 11 guys show up.

Asked if he and his teammates hit the soccer ball with their heads (driving headers), Jerry swears "that's why we're the way we are." Soccer is a great sport according to Jerry, who's excuse for playing is to work up a thirst.

The Sludge Management Units most successful coach is Project Engineer, **Keith Houck,** who coached his wife, Doris in the natural delivery of their third child, Ashley Houck, born February 15, 1985 at West Jersey Hospital's Eastern Division, weighed 6 lbs. 8 ozs. Keith's two older children, Robert (4½ years) and Valerie (1½ years) received a special, unforgettable Valentine's Day gift. Congratulations to Keith and Doris.

# "UNION TALK"

Water Department Employees' Local 394 elections were held March 19, 1985 and the following persons were duly elected by the membership:

| | |
|---|---|
| **James R. Rawls** | President |
| **John Fortune** | Vice-President |
| **Dolores Kelly** | Secretary |
| **Ruth Scott** | Treasurer |
| **Harry Johnson** | Seargeant-at-Arms |
| **James Workman** | Seargeant-at-Arms |

These officers have been elected to serve a three year term effective April 1, 1985 through March 31, 1988.

The following delegates have been elected to serve their respected units:

**Gilbert Richardson,** *Building Maintenance/ Security*
**Ronald West,** *Distribution - Center City*
**Harriet Lowman-Allen,** *Customer Service*
**Ronald Whitfield,** *Distribution - 29th Street*
**Joesph Ford,** *Design/One Reading Center*
**J.R. Moore,** *Sewer Maintenance - West*
**Clinton Holman,** *Distribution - Germantown*
**Ernest Fletcher,** *Inlet Cleaning*
**William Cassella,** *Inlet Cleaning*
**Milton Jones,** *Sewer Maintenance - Lardner's Point*
**Hershey Lee, Jr.,** *Logan Garage*
**William Williams,** *Meter Shop*
**Douglas Maxwell,** *Northeast Pollution Control Plant*
**Lawrence Samuels,** *Northeast Pollution Control Plan*
**Tom Turner,** *Distribution - Northeast*
**Rodney Bennett,** *Queen Lane Plant*
**Hugh B. Ings,** *Queen Lane Plant*
**Nathaniel Bagwell,** *Sewer Maintenance - 28th Street*
**Frederick Hicks,** *Southeast Pollution Control Plant*
**John Samuels,** *Southwest Pollution Control Plant*
**Clarence Cohen,** *Southwest Pollution Control Plant*
**William Durham,** *Distribution - West Philadelphia*
**Steven Malloy,** *Baxter Plant*
**Randall Grove,** *Distribution - Northeast*
**Wayne Thompson,** *Belmont Plant*

AFSCME District Council 47, Local 2187, is pleased to announce the selection of stewards by union members in the Philadelphia Water department. These stewards will work with Mike Walsh, who is the Treasurer of our Local and Business Agent for Water Department members. The following is a list of your stewards and the sections they represent:

**Robert Miziorko,** *Water & Wastewater Labs*
**Roy Madrey,** *Water & Wastewater Labs*
**James Wilkerson,** *Materials Testing Lab*
**Gregory Vaksman,** *Scattered Treatment Sites*
**Sam Ariyamitr,** *Design*
**Henry Marek,** *Design*
**Emmett Dunnigan,** *Design (Alternate Steward)*
**Fred Jadali-Ari,** *Construction*
**William Conrad,** *Survey*

While these members were designated to represent the union in certain functions, remember that the employees are the union. The quality of service and strength of your union depends directly upon your active membership and financial support. Working together, we can build a stronger union that is ready and able to provide the required services and support whenever the need arises.

If you have any questions or wish to join the union, please call Bob Miziorko (335-8032) or Mike Walsh (546-)9875).

George X. Bey

# Retirees Are Toasted

**Henry Horne with his wife and two sons.**

A retirement luncheon was held for Henry Horne, Automotive Maintenance, on Thursday, February 21, 1985 at The Shack.

Mr. Horne had worked 31 years in the Automotive Maintenance Unit starting as a Mechanic's Helper, moving up to the Supervisor of the unit.

Approximately 100 people attended including 10 of his family members and 10 retirees from the Department. He received many gifts including the Captain Sewer Award; a plaque made from an old water main; a lamp made from a piston; an attache case and a 35mm camera set from the employees of Logan Garage.

A retirement luncheon on February 22, 1985 was held for Walter Yoka, Collector System, to mark the completion of his 31 year Water Department career.

Mr. Yoka began in the Sewer Maintenance Unit as a brick mason. Moving up the career ladder, he became Chief of the unit in 1969. In 1977, he was appointed Collector System Coordinator to oversee the Inlet Cleaning, Sewer Maintenance and Interceptors.

Many gifts were presented to Mr. Yoka including a mounted "Z" bar and the Captain Sewer Award by the many co-workers who will surely miss him.

George X. Bey, Water Main Records, was honored at a retirement luncheon on January 28, 1985 at John Wanamakers' Crystal Room.

Mr. Bey, an employee since 1956, began in the Design Branch and since 1967 was Chief of Water Main Records. In 1981, he was given The Man of the Year Award by the Plumbing and Heating Contractors Association of Philadelphia. Well known to people in both public and private enterprise, over 100 persons came out for George's final roast. Contractors as well as employees, spoke about the committment George had made throughout the years to his job and the services provided. He will surely be missed by everyone.

# What's Pumping

Mark Bubel, Design, became newly registered as a Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania in August, 1984.

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Timothy Waterman, Finance, passed the Certified Accountant examination in November, 1984. A long time aspiration, Tim attributes passing the examination to attending courses in auditing and other prinicples.

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In December, 1984, Renee Garvin, Librarian, completed all course requirements at Drexel University for the Master of Science degree in Library and Information Sciences. Renee continues to develop the Library located on the 3rd Floor, One Reading Center.

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Larry Lyed, Inlet Cleaning, holds the ticket to a brand new 1985 Chevrolet Caprice. Larry was the winner of a raffle sponsored by the St. Mary's Church in Maryland.

He purchased the ticket from a co-worker and never expecting to win, he put his wife's name on it. Larry was more than surprised that he had actually won something. Congratulations Larry. A brand new car is not bad for a first time winner.

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Samuel F. Wagner, Projects Control, died suddenly on February 23, 1985, at age 51. Sam worked diligently as a Water Department employee for over 32 years. For nearly 9 years, he worked in the Projects Control Unit implementing the bidding process for all the Water Department's capital improvement projects. He will surely be missed by his fellow workers and friends. A living memory of Sam's kindness and generosity will continue in all of those he encountered.

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Pipeline is published by the Customer Affairs Department for the employees of the Water Department.

Maureen Sullivan ..... Editor

One Reading Center—5th Floor

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Charlotte Silver, Finance, completed a 25.5 mile bike-a-thon on Saturday, June 15, 1985. The bike-a-thon was sponsored by the Leukemia Society of America to raise money for patient aid and research. Charlotte won a portable bike pump and a tee-shirt for the amount of money she raised. She was one of the top ten contest winners.

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On Sunday, June 16, Elizabeth McKeon, Data Management, completed a 10-kilometer run for charity on West River Drive. Elizabeth finished the 6.2 mile course in 64 minutes and 38 seconds.

Elizabeth began running four miles each morning in February after recovering from a broken leg last July and a hernia operation in December. She had been an avid swimmer, bicycler and walker before she became ill. For fitness and fun, Elizabeth started running to get back in shape both physically and mentally.

# Top 10 Lawyer

**Paul Nolan**

Kudos to Paul Nolan, Legal Services, as he graduated from the Delaware Law School of Widener University on Saturday, May 18, 1985. For the past four years Paul has commuted to the law school's campus in Wilmington, Delaware. He graduated in the top 10% of his class.

Last April, Paul joined the department as a paralegal to Denise Colliers, and Flora Wolf, the department's counsel. Paul has assisted the attorneys in a wide variety of cases and acknowledged that the smallest case may require the time of numerous employees who must identify documents, relay facts or provide typing support. "Most people have no idea of the amount of time and resources which are needed just to stay on top of a case," Paul noted.

Paul has accepted a position with the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D.C., beginning this fall. Best wishes to Paul and his family on their move to Washington and future endeavors.

# Births

**Joe Stanton,** *Design,* a girl on July 3, 1984.

**Lou Russo,** *Sludge Management,* a boy on August 16, 1984.

**Hank Hinton,** *Survey,* a girl on November 14, 1984.

**John Schoolfield,** *Inlet Cleaning,* a grandson on November 19, 1984.

**Fran Meiers,** *Personnel,* a girl on December 27, 1984.

**Charles Kitchen,** *Sludge Management,* triplets, two boys and a girl on February 6, 1985.

**Keigh Houck,** *Sludge Management,* a girl on Feburary 15, 1985.

# Marriages

**Anthony Falcone, Jr.,** *NEWPC* to **Katryn Jean Carlini** on November 17, 1984.

**Pierre Riley,** *NEWPC,* to **Debra Mays** on Feburary 23, 1985.

**Douglas McCoy, Jr.,** *Inlet Cleaning,* to **J. Denise Blackwood Fuller** on April 27, 1985.

**Morris Albert,** *Building Maintenance,* to **Gilda Tina Smith** on October 27, 1984.

**Martin Goldberg,** *Industrial Waste,* to **Beth Kaufman** on June 16, 1985.

# A Visit To Nairobi

During her Christmas vacation, Beth Fisher, the daughter of George Fisher, Customer Service, visited family friends in Nairobi, Kenya. The Munius, Beth's hosts, are members of the Kikuyu Tribe, the largest of the forty-three Kenyan tribes.

Beth, a second-year medical student at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, describes Kenya as the most fabulous country on earth. She went on a five day safari near Mt. Kilimanjaro, toured the Rift Valley; and spent New Year's Day in Mombasa, a costal paradise on the Indian Ocean. One day was spent visiting the Kenyatta national Medical Center, a 2000 bed hospital in Nairobi. Built in 1978, it is the largest and most well equipped on the continent of Africa.

**Sewer Express: left to right, Richie Cortese*, Joanne Dahme*, Abbas Shahrokh*, Marc Breslow*, Brian Mohl*, Mitch Mohl, Dave Mitchell*, Tim Kiser. *W.D. employee.**

# Sewer Express

Running is the name of the game for members of the "Sewer Express," originating from the Southeast Abatement Unit at Front and Pattison. These hearty few have participated in numerous running events in Philadelphia and tri-State area. Such legends as "Big Cheese," "Chocolate Mouse," "Squeaky," "Mighty Mouse," "Tail-End," and "All Paws" have churned their way down Broad Street, Valley Green, East River Drive, and Sea Isle City spreading the word that the Water Department running team is on the flow. Captained by Joanne Dahme and Brian "Legs" Mohl, the other members include Richie Cortese, Marc "Biker" Breslow, Tony Kopicki, and Dave "Mystern Man" Mitchell. No distance is too great for these hearty turf-pounders: "From 2 to 26" is their motto. An active 1985 season is planned, which started with the 10 mile Broad Street run on May 5th. Hopeful to make the express team this season are Joe "Stallion" Ferrero and, fresh from the European circuit, Abbas Shahrokh.

# Water Department Volleyball League

Once again the Water Department's volleyball league had eight teams from throughout the department. Although the quality of play had improved in the 1984-85 season, the quantity of matches had diminished due to lack of people power on several teams.

Perennial powers, Design, Northeast Construction and last year's champs, Southeast Construction, easily qualified for this year's playoffs. But the surprise team to make the playoffs was the Breakers, formally Water Operations, captained by Joe Galante. Under Joe's strong leadership and shrewd maneuvering, the Breakers captured the final playoff position.

In the first semifinal round held on March 22nd, the upstart Breakers stunned Northeast, winning two close games by scores of 11-9 and 12-10. The second semifinal was a rematch of last year's final between Design and Southeast. Design jumped out to a 6-0 lead in the first game but lost 11-6. In the second game they forged an early lead (8-0) and this time held on to win 11-9. Southwest prevailed over Design in the third and deciding game by 11-3.

After this tough and exhausting semifinal match for Southeast, the final on March 29th against the Breakers should have been anticlimatic, with an easy win by Southeast over the supposedly overmatched Breakers. But with the pressure that the Breakers put on them, Southeast had to play their best to win the final by 15-11 and 15-10. We look forward to continued excellent play and a better turnout for next season.

# City Athlete Of The Week

William Reed, Sr., Sewer Maintenance, is the proud father of the City Athlete of the Week, William Reed, Jr., freshman at Central High School.

On December 21, 1984, William, Jr., recorded the nation's third fastest scholastic 600 yard dash with a time of 1 minute, 13.04 seconds. On February 3, 1985, he ran the 440 yard dash in 49.06 seconds at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. The time set a meet record, it was the fastest run in the year and places William, Jr. seventieth among all-time 440 participants. As a result, William, Jr. has been named the Inquirer's City Athlete of the Week (February 14).

"I started running track in 1978, mostly because my father was a runner at Germantown High," the 14 year old William said. "Having the support of my father has gone a long way for me. He's my best coach."

William, Sr. coaches the Morris Estate Track Club in his spare time. He began coaching in 1978, the same year William, Jr. started running.

# Department Workers Run For Charity

Three Water Department employees completed the American Cancer Society sponsored Broad Street Run on Sunday, May 5, 1985. Steve Ballay of Data Management, Tom Colantuono and Stanley Smith of Finance, were among the 3400 participants in the 10 mile race, with finishing times of 73 minutes, 76 minutes and 117 minutes, respectively. The top finished completed the race in just fifty minutes. Representatives from the American Cancer Society and dignitaries, including Mayor Wilson Goode, awaited the finishers at J.F.K. Stadium.

The stadium took on a carnival atmoshpere, as the crowd cheered for racers crossing the finish line. One participant, confined to a wheel chair, completed the race in seventy minutes. Friends, family and fans celebrated with the runners who received tee shirts, prizes, fresh fruit and drink. The successful Broad Street Run raised money for a good cause and the spirits of those participating.

# PIPELINE NEWSLETTER

PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT SUMMER EDITION 1986


## The Fairmount Waterworks: Let the Restoration Begin!

When Frederick Graff originally chose the site of "Faire Mount" as the location of Philadelphia's planned pumping station, the City was in dire need of a pure water supply. In 1811, Graff was commissioned by Philadelphia's Watering Committee to design and build the Fairmount Waterworks, a project which was later acclaimed as the engineering marvel of its age. The Waterworks, which eventually comprised reservoirs, a dam, and a pumping station containing seven turbines, was the first of its size in the world. Its efficiency was surpassed only by its design, a surprising union of Greek Revival buildings and park gardens.

So when you happen to gaze across the Schuylkill to one of Philadelphia's favorite landmarks, don't be surprised to see the scaffolding and equipment activity, tangible proof that the restoration and adaptive reuse of the Fairmount Waterworks has begun. Such a project is symbolic of the spirit in Philadelphia, a spirit that is fueled by the shared works and ideas of an innovative private-public partnership.

Such a spirit should not be surprising. As Commissioner Bill Marrazzo noted while heading the project's Steering Committee: "The importance of the Waterworks lies in three specific areas: The Waterworks is a nationally important landmark in the history of water power technology; the site is unrivaled in its graceful beauty and architectural form; and the Waterworks can be an enticing tourist attraction, and therefore could substantially contribute to the development of Philadelphia as a marketable tourist center."

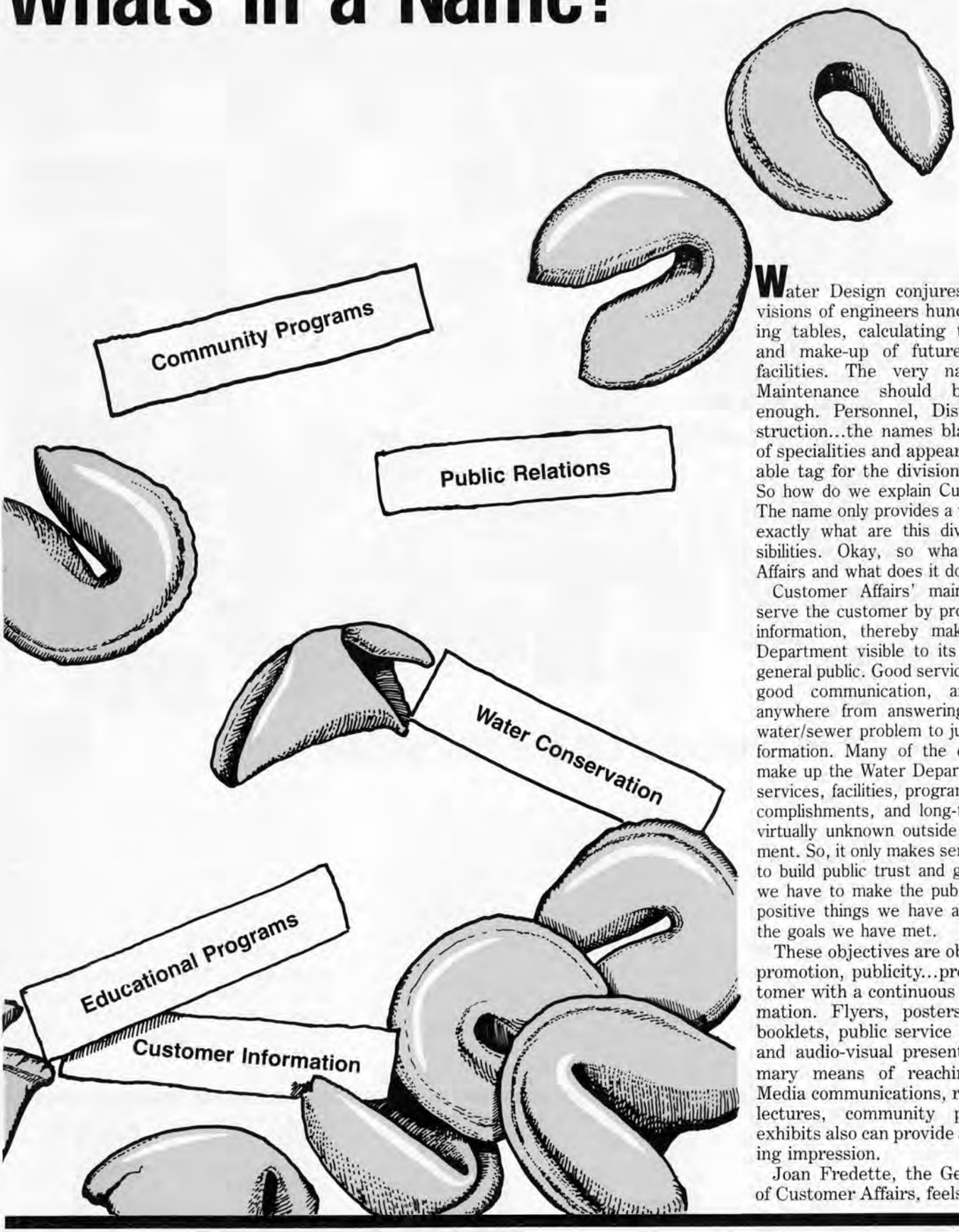
*( continued on pg.6 )*

## INSIDE



**LOOK FORWARD TO OUR OPEN HOUSE COMING SOON!**

# What's in a Name?




Water Design conjures in your mind visions of engineers hunched over drawing tables, calculating the dimensions and make-up of future systems and facilities. The very name of Sewer Maintenance should be explanation enough. Personnel, Distribution, Construction...the names blanket a variety of specialities and appear to be a reasonable tag for the divisions they identify. So how do we explain Customer Affairs? The name only provides a vague clue as to exactly what are this division's responsibilities. Okay, so what is Customer Affairs and what does it do?

Customer Affairs' main goals are to serve the customer by providing accurate information, thereby making the Water Department visible to its customers and general public. Good service depends upon good communication, and can range anywhere from answering a customer's water/sewer problem to just providing information. Many of the elements which make up the Water Department, i.e., our services, facilities, programs, policies, accomplishments, and long-term goals, are virtually unknown outside of the Department. So, it only makes sense that in order to build public trust and general support, we have to make the public aware of the positive things we have accomplished, of the goals we have met.

These objectives are obtained through promotion, publicity...providing the customer with a continuous stream of information. Flyers, posters, bill stuffers, booklets, public service announcements and audio-visual presentations are primary means of reaching our public. Media communications, research papers, lectures, community programs, and exhibits also can provide a powerful, lasting impression.

Joan Fredette, the General Manager of Customer Affairs, feels it is important

to aim a great deal of the public awareness campaign towards the elimination of the public's "resistance to pay." Believe it or not, customers are not really all that thrilled about rate increases. As Ms. Fredette states it, "The resistance to pay for water and wastewater services can be partially attributed to the public's lack of knowledge concerning how their money is allocated. The public should be informed of the costs of upgrading our treatment plants, of complying with new regulations, i.e., the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. The public may still dislike the rising costs, but perhaps realizing how the utility is managed and where the money is going will, at the very least, build trust in the Department and soften the blow of rate increases."

Ms. Fredette also supervises a diversified staff which juggles a variety of projects. Bob Walker, Public Relations Administrator, essentially establishes communication standards and procedures for dealing with emergencies and major reoccurring issues: rate increases, water main breaks, work stoppages, drought, water quality, flooding. He also coordinates the production of the annual report and other publications, and occasionally takes some of the photographs used in them.

Drew Brown, Educational Programs Manager, pulls together local and regional educational programs on the management and services of the Water Department. School children are often a primary targeted audience, and are reached through Water Department exhibits, videos, i.e., those produced for hydrant abuse (the Water Dept. rap), and many times, the awesome appearance of their hero in the flesh, the infamous...Captain Sewer, played secretly by a Water Department employee. Adults are reached through community and conservation programs.

Drew is also in charge of the concept, design and construction of a water museum, called the Interpretive Center, at the Fairmount Waterworks, and Joan Anne Przybylowicz is in charge of development for the new Interpretive Center. While Drew concentrates on the renovation and construction work, Joan Anne's responsibility is ensuring that the money is there. Joan Anne is in charge of all fundraising campaigns, and her present goal is to raise a cool $2.8 million to complete all scheduled work. Joan Anne and summer intern, Jill Hittleman, a historic preservationist, are presently researching private corporations and foundations as possible grant sources. Later, governmental agencies will be addressed for monetary support of the Waterworks project.

Joan Anne also has the monumental task of handling service requests which require special attention due to their complexity. Joan Anne and Eileen McGuire, clerk typist, work daily with legislators, city officials, and community leaders to satisfactorily solve their constituents requests. Essentially, Joan Anne ensures that complaints are acknowledged, resolved, and all concerned informed of the results. A working relationship with them is thereby established and a favorable image of the Water Department projected.

Maureen Sullivan is our Community Affairs Liaison. Probably more familiar to you all as the editor of this high quality, peerless newsletter, "The Pipeline," Maureen is also responsible for developing a working relationship with special interest groups, city agencies, and community organizations and legislators to stay tuned with the public's needs and perceptions of our department. The Watermobile, a van painted and splashed with Water Department logos, is virtually an "exhibit on wheels," aimed at familiarizing children with important facts of water use and conservation.

Bernie Rosenberg is the Division's Design and Display Specialist. Bernie lends his artistic and graphic interpretive abilities to the Water Department's exhibits, brochures, audio-visual presentations, and any other projects which require visual impact. Bernie is also the Division's photographer.

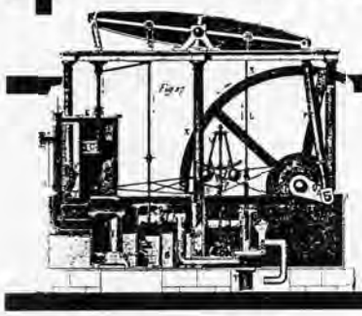
Kimlar Satterthwaite is the Division's Conservation Programs Administrator. A good deal of Kimlar's work is concentrated on designing and implementing programs for senior citizens and low-income customers. Kimlar advises and familiarizes these customers with water conservation practices in order to decrease their water service costs. Kimlar also shows Water Department customers how their own house plumbing can be modified to be more cost efficient through the use of the water conservation kits, and speaks to other community groups on Water Conservation programs. Due to the increase in poverty and rising water bills, Kimlar also searches for creative ways for these customers to pay through assistance programs.

Virginia Brinkley Williams, Customer Service Supervisor, is stationed at 29th Street presently. With the aid of nine service representatives, Carol Wilson, Nancy Schindler, Delores Kelly, Audrey Morgan, Richard Ball, Barbara Malone, Marge Bohorsik, Ruth Thompson and Evelyn Rush, Virginia fields telephone complaints, questions, theories, and dissertations. Future plans involve a customer walk-in, centrally located service center with high public visibility and with the goal in mind of allowing the Department to correct a service problem before it becomes a major issue. Mrs. Williams' twenty-five years of experience in customer services has been a vital component in the establishment of an expanded information center in One Reading Center, which is scheduled to begin operation in the fall. Eight service representatives will serve the entire department as a "one stop shop" for the customer, producing work orders for the field units and providing speedy information to the customer on inter-department issues.

Joanne Dahme is the new Utility Information Officer. Customers are usually alerted to new policies or procedures through various media sources. Joanne's job is to review these articles or new regulations, prepare a response to be released to the media, and explain the Water Department's position on the matter. Joanne also gets to write feature articles like this!

J'Enell Williams, Joan Fredette's secretary, provides the essential support services which enable Joan to ensure a smooth flow of communication with her staff, outside agencies and the media. J'Enell tackles all items with a determined efficiency.

Because of the variety of individual specialities within the Customer Affairs Division, the unit believes it can recognize and promulgate all of the "good news" which the Water Department generates as a result of the contributions of all its employees. As a symbol of this idea, the Department has presented to Philadelphia...Captain Sewer. We want our customers to realize that although a lot of the work we all do is far from glamorous, it is important, and sometimes requires just the right type of hero to do it.



# WHAT'S PUMPING

## A STORY OF DEVOTION

There was a child went forth every day
And the first object he looked upon and received with wonder or
pity or love or dread, that object he became,
And that object became part of him for the day or a certain part of
the day...or for many years or stretching cycles of years.

Walt Whitman

On March 21, 1986, the Mayor presented to Mr. Robert Harris the "City Employee of the Month" award. Why was the 66-year-old truck driver for Central Stores at 29th and Cambria so honored?

Not only because he did his job, but more importantly, because he cared about doing his job.

Harris is retired now, but during his 41 years of employment with the Water Department, he achieved a mark usually untouched by others - Harris has never used a day of sick leave.

Harris never found a reason good enough to stay home sick. Blessed with incredibly good health, he found going to work rather natural and easy. Everyday he would walk a mile to and from the bus, arriving at work early enough to start the coffee and make things comfortable for his fellow employees.

Even vacation was not enough to tempt Harris from arriving on the job. Although he had been entitled to five weeks of vacation, last year Harris only took 8 1/2 days. Everything he wishes to see and everyone he knows can be found by his home in South Philly.

Therefore, Harris says, there is no reason to make a big deal of it. P

## A CAREER OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Finance Division's Joseph A. Duffy, retired from the Water Department on February 21, 1986, after 32 years of service with the City of Philadelphia. He began his career in 1954 in the Managing Director's Office as the City's very first Management Trainee. He transferred to this department in 1955 and was promoted to an Administrative Analyst III in 1966. Joe worked with the late Deputy Commissioner Charles Vickerman, former Commissioner Carmen Guarino, and current Deputy Commissioner Ronald Coy. He produced numerous management studies and analyses used by the executive staff for management decisions.

Joe was well-liked and respected by his co-workers, as evidenced by the 90 people that attended his retirement luncheon at Strawbridge & Clothiers. We wish Joe luck and happiness in his retirement. P

CONGRATULATIONS! to Denice Clayton who recently graduated from John Casablanca Modeling School.

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PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Paul McCloskey, NE Abatement, who has served the American Public Works Association, Delaware Valley Chapter (APWA) for years. He was acknowledged with a special luncheon on March 12, 1986 at the Riverfront Restaurant.

Congratulations to David Weber, NE Abatement, for recently passing the professional engineering exam.

Congratulations to Harish Vadher, NE Abatement, who became a United States citizen on April 2, 1986.

• • •

Analytical Chemist, Dr. Francis Costillo, Materials Testing Laboratory, and two members of the Temple University Chemistry Faculty, have had their paper, Hydrochlorination of Alkines II, accepted for publication by the Journal of Physical Chemistry.

• • •

SPORTS! Security recently won a basketball game over Frank Gola's team, Southwest Plant Maintenance. Anyone wishing to pit their basketball talents against these teams, contact Larry Goldstein (Security) at 492-4006 or Frank Gola (SW Maint.) at 492-4021.

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PINBALL MACHINE FOR SALE

Old Two-player BALLY (Sir Galahad) Needs Repair. $75. Call Steve Tilney 483-5852 after 6:30 pm.

• • •

Ruby Davis, Emergency & Support Services, was ordained a Deaconess of the Reeve Memorial Presbyterian Church on Sunday, February 16, 1986. Ruby was elected as a result of her work with the church's food cupboard program and for her efforts to provide clothes and household items to the needy.

• • •

Mother and daughter walk for children who can't walk for themselves! On Sunday, April 27th, the March of Dimes had their "Annual Walk America." Betty Gray, Security, along with daughter Felicia, walked the entire 25 kilometers (16 miles) starting at 5th and Market Streets, then to West River Drive, down Kelly River Drive and back to 5th and Market Streets. And, Betty came to work the next day!!

Barry Brait, Finance, appeared in "1776" at the Villanova Theater on June 18 thru July 12. On July 4,5 and 6, the play was presented at Penns Landing. Our resident actor has been very busy this year appearing in "Witness," "Mannequin," "George Washington," a stage play "The Conversation Piece," and an opera Die Fledermaus." Barry Brait's fans can look for him soon at a nearby theater.

• • •

FREE TO MEN — applications are now being accepted for a weight loss program. Call Elizabeth at 438-1008 or Michael at 483-3291 (Evenings only).

## – A DEDICATION –

I honestly dedicate this poem in loving memory to all of those who so lovingly contributed to the Shirley Lindsay Fund. God bless and keep you.

Shirley

UPON MEDITATION

Oh were to God as we've been taught,
That we would do the things we ought.
To omit the inhumanities that stifle mankind
And help one another achieve peace of mind.

In the world today as time runs out,
People scatter, scamper and shuffle about,
Why the confusion and harried expressions?
Material gain has left its impression.

People are clamoring for freedom each day,
Imprisoning their hearts in their haste so they may
Continue on up the ladder of success,
Mindful of their neighbor's needs the less.

Look up, live and open your heart,
Be as young children, eager to start.
Put away the chilling stares,
And let others know you are someone who cares.

Recapture the time that one would spend,
Inquiring to the well being of a friend.
We can all live together, this I know is true
If we're willing to give some of ourselves too.

By Shirley Lindsay

# WE ARE PROUD TO BE U.S. CITIZENS

By Gregory Vaksman
NE Abatement

*From left: Harry Graber - Immigration and Naturalization Office, Mike Touet - Congressman Borski's Aid Gregory Vaksman - NE Abatement, Joshua Eilber former U.S. Congressman*

We came to Philadelphia from Kiev, Ukrainia in November 1979 – myself, my wife, Tamila, daughter, Alina and mother-in-law, Anna.

I got my first job in April 1980 as an assistant project manager for L.F. Driscoll (general contractor). The owner of this company sent me to school to learn English as a second language.

One year later, I joined with R.M. Shoemaker Co. and worked for two years as a Field Engineer.

In August 1982, I began work as a Graduate Civil Engineer with the Philadelphia Water Department at the N.E.W.P.C.P. My current position is Project Engineer, Civil Engineer II. I am also a shop steward. I am both glad and proud to work for Civil Service. I deeply appreciate my manager, Resident Engineer Richard A. Haneiko, his assistant, Erving Huber, and all colleagues for their help and understanding.

My wife worked for four years for United Engineers Co. as a mechanical designer and is now working for Crescent Iron Works. My daughter Alina, 25, graduated from the New York Cooper Union of Arts School, and is now working as a stage and costume designer. Her first show "Chess" (produced by Mike Bennet of Dream Girls & Chorus Line) began in London, England this May.

On March 23, 1986, we received our U.S. Citizenship and it is a great honor for all of us. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

# SAFETY PAYOFFS

*Row 1: Ed Lewandowsky - Baxter Filter Plant - $50, Bernita Reilly - Torresdale Pumping - $50, Linwood Hosendorf - Materials Testing Lab - $500. Row 2: Richard Todd - Building Maintenance - $500, Joseph Cerrone - Industrial Wastes - $50, Mex Thornton - N.E. Treatment H.Q. - $100, Robert Pierce - E.S.S. - $50, Huett Johnson - Meter Shop - $1,000.*

The Safety Office held its Safety Incentive Awards Luncheon and Drawing on June 6, 1986.

United States Savings Bonds were the drawing prizes. Twenty-five employees were randomly selected from among the employees who had no lost time due to injury or had no preventable vehicle accidents in 1984.

Calendar clocks with the inscription "Time for Safety P.W.D." were awarded to the 15 candidates present and the other 109 on the safety eligible list.

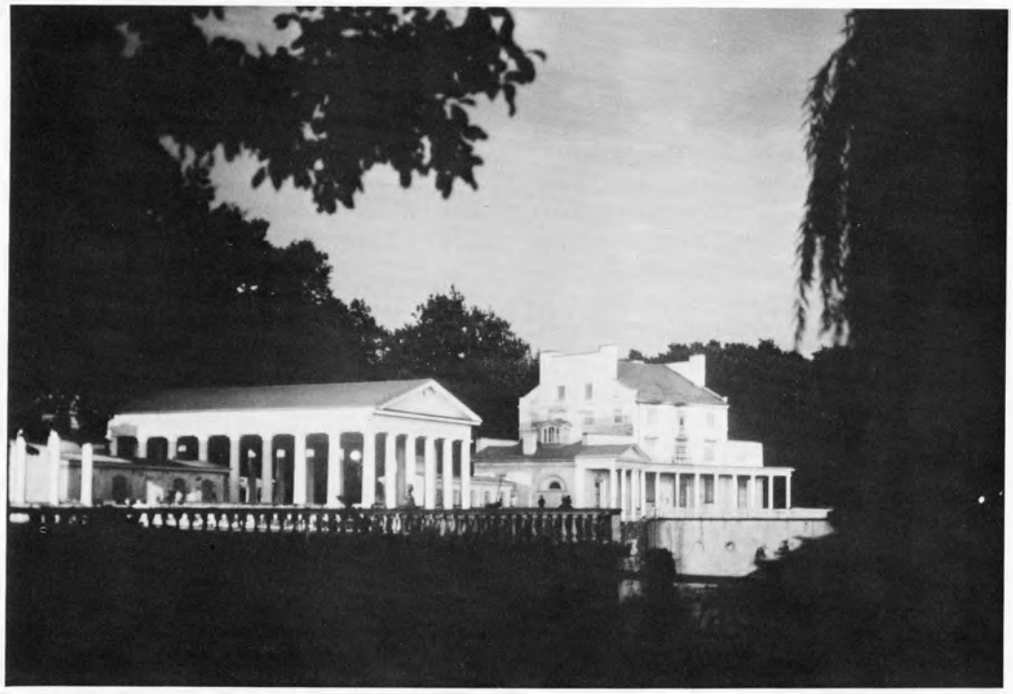
The $1,000.00 U.S. Savings Bond Grand Prize Safety Winner was Huett Johnson, from the Meter Shop. The $500.00 bonds went to Linwood Hosendorf of Materials Testing Laboratory, and Richard Todd from Building Maintenance. The $100.00 bond winners were Mex Thorton of NEWPCP/Tr. H.Q., Edward Lewandowski of Baxter Filters, Nelson Jennings of SWWPC Plant, and Lloyd Swinson of Belmont Filters. The $50.00 bond winners were Robert Pierce of Emergency and Support Services, Bernita Reilly from Pumping, and Joseph Cerrone of Industrial Waste.

(continued from pg.1)

The entire restoration and adaptive reuse plan for the Waterworks could potentially cost over 19 million dollars, although it is anticipated that the investment in the proposed hydroelectric facility and new restaurant will carry a portion of the financial burden. The magnitude of such an endeavor requires extensive coordination by such City agencies as the Fairmount Park Commission, and has attracted the interest and aid of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, the Junior League of Philadelphia, the U.S. Department of Interior, John Milner Associates (architects), and the PHPC Restoration Inc. Actually, the Junior League is already credited with the funds used in the restoration of the Caretaker's House and the Watering Committee Building. The reconstruction has also enlisted the participation of such Water Department units as Planning and Research, Design and the Customer Affairs Division.

Two large steam engines first powered the Waterworks, which began operation in 1815. Later, water wheels replaced the steam engines due to reliability problems. These breast wheels powered the pump machinery between 1822 and 1851, during which time the "old" Mill House and Fairmount Dam were built. Later, at the recommendation of Frederic Graff Jr., the first experimental turbine was installed in 1851. Graff had been keeping a keen eye on the development of the turbine in France, noting that the turbines were smaller, ran at higher speeds, worked submerged, and could utilize a wide range of heads. Such characteristics were sorely needed at the Fairmount Waterworks, which was subjected daily to tidal flows which submerged the breast wheels, bringing to a halt all pumping operations. The Fairmount turbine system was designed by a Frenchman, Emile Geyelin, and the system was operating efficiently until the Waterworks ceased operation in 1909 due to the need for water treatment.

As evidence of its diversified history, the interior of the Waterworks still bears structural and architectural clues to the many institutions it accommodated. These include an aquarium in 1911, a swimming pool in the 1950's, and most recently, a cafe. Since 1980, the Waterworks has not been in use, with the exception of a visitor's center, established in 1984, which served as the base for tours to the original turbine and pump of 1851, located in the Engine House basement.



Motivations behind the renewal and restoration of the Waterworks are many. The Waterworks has been declared a National Historic Landmark, as well as a National Historic Mechanical and Civil Engineering Landmark. But the Waterworks is also on the Department of the Interior's Endangered Landmark list, imposing a sense of urgency to the project's present revitalization.

Plans for an educational museum, the Interpretive Center, are presently being drawn up with a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. The design and planning firm of Matheu Cebul and Associates will complete the preliminary plans before the summer.

Joan Fredette, General Manager of the Customer Affairs Division, described the planning and concept of the Interpretive Center: "The consultants are aiming to design a center which illustrates the history of the Fairmount Waterworks, and its relationship to the evolution of Fairmount Park. Emphasis is placed on public awareness and understanding of the Waterwork's past through the public's physical involvement with the center, utilizing the advantage of the actual site and the presence of authentic equipment and artifacts. Essentially, the center will provide visitors with an exciting starting point and an incentive to explore the rest of the City's waterfront."

During the construction phase of the project, the Old Mill House will be gutted and prepared for the Interpretive Center and proposed restaurant. This work entails the demolition of the aquarium, which is still in place, and the removal of an aquarium tank and sections of glass from other tanks. The salvaged aquarium tank dates to 1905, when it was displayed in the World's Fair in St. Louis. In some complicated maneuvers, the two Entrance Houses will be moved and the Pavilion will be lifted off the ground and supported on scaffolding, all taking place while the roof deck of the Old Mill House is demolished and replaced. New columns replicating the originals will be manufactured to support the pavilion. The possibility of restoring the historic turbine and pump machinery into working order, with the aid of Water Department maintenance mechanics, is also being investigated. Other restoration work includes structural renovation to the site's river wall, i.e., repointing, and the repair of the structure's foundations.

Because of the unique architectural and historical significance of the Waterworks, a film will be produced which chronicles the restoration and adaptive reuse of the landmark. The Water Department has selected L.F. Banks to film the initial restoration in a 20 minute documentary. A 10 minute fundraising film will also be used to promote this exciting project. Stay tuned for further developments. P

# THE MAKING OF A CHAMPION

The heart can think of no devotion
Greater than being shore to the ocean-
Holding the curve of one position,
Counting an endless repetition.

Robert Frost


William Reed Jr. was 7 years old when he saw his first Penn Relays. He watched the runners continuously stretch, preoccupied emotions erasing all signs of anxiety. He saw them run, their hearts in their eyes, straining for that finish line tape.

Now William Reed Jr. is a champion. He runs with an instinctive fervor, as if the running is in his bones. Perhaps it is.

William Reed Sr. is a Field Inspector for the Meter Shop. In the early '60's, he was a 100 yard sprinter for Germantown High School. He ran his race in a swift 9.9 seconds and was considered the best high school sprinter in the country.

Perhaps it is the genes.

The Penn Relays inspired William Reed Jr. The 7-year-old immediately persuaded his father to sign him up for a meet at Ursinus College, where he was accidently placed in the 8 and 9-year-old race. He placed third.

That was only the beginning. He became the first American 9-year-old to run 400 meters faster than 60 seconds, pounding out successive national age group records yearly.

Reed is now 16, a sophomore at Central High School. At 5 feet 11 inches and 170 pounds, he has grown into a running dynamo. Perpetual motion inspires perpetual awards.

At the end of Central's indoor season, Reed was awarded "Athlete of the Year" from Track & Field News, officially notching him as top high school runner in the country. Reed's outdoor season has been just as impressive. The Central relay team won two races at the Father Judge Relays, breaking a meet record in the 4×400 and tying one in the 4×100. The following week his team placed second for the same events in the Penn Relays.

The future beckons brightly, offering Reed notable opportunities to reach his running goals. On June 14, Reed competed at the Jumbo Elliot meet at Villanova University. He traveled to Orlando, Florida for the Junior Pan Am Games. He then went on to Romania for a dual meet, and Athens, Greece for the First Junior World Championship.

On May 21, Reed was awarded the "John Facenda Award." The awarding was aired on Channel 10 on June 7th.

Locally and internationally, Reed wishes to make his mark. Reed Sr. says that his son is family and team oriented and hates to lose. His competitive edge is razor sharp. Reed's goals are nothing short of Olympic gold and world record.

Ranking among Reed's distinguished fans is none other than Bill Cosby. To the Reeds' amazement, Cosby called Reed, Jr. and invited him to Atlantic City for a chat, dinner and his show. Cosby considers Reed Jr. a valuable asset to the community, as an example for the young, of one who strives towards his goals to reach them.

So do we.

# OUR GOODWILL AMBASSADOR

On April 16, 1986, Channel 3 Anchorman Jack Jones presented Stanley B. Smith of Finance with the Jefferson Award for extraordinary public service. Stanley is both a resource and role model for area youth through his work with PAL, and as a tutor and block captain. In addition, he has been a Business Administration Instructor at Community College of Philadelphia since 1979 and has just completed 27 credit hours in Data Processing at Community College.

The Jefferson Award is a national competition honoring individuals who have performed extraordinary public service. The Delaware Valley winners are also eligible for the national award and a $1,000 cash award. National winners will be announced in the near future.

# BRIGHT IDEAS

Treatment Plant Operator James Downs, SWWPCP, has been chosen the first winner in the Department's Employee Suggestion Program. He has come up with a quick and safe way to clean blocked sludge and heating pumps on the digesters. His method will reduce the manhours for cleaning the pumps by over ninety (90%) percent and save the department considerable monies.

The Suggestion Committee has approved his suggestion and implementation is forthcoming.

# BLOOD DRIVE

Almost 25% of the Water Department Employees (428) donated blood to the Red Cross in Fiscal Year 1985. This was the highest donor rate in the City and was matched only by the Police Department. The overall City rate was 16%.

A Spring Blood Drive was held March 10th through April 11th, 1986. There were 26 volunteer recruiters working within their own units, informing their co-workers of the drive, distributing donation appointment slips, and arranging donation dates through the Personnel office.

Among our donors were Commissioner Marrazzo and Deputy Commissioner Walton. There were 18 first-time donors, five one-gallon pins, three two-gallon pins and one three-gallon pin. There were 218 donors during this drive.

There will be another Blood Drive in June which will closeout Fiscal year 1986. We are hoping to beat our record for Fiscal Year 1985 and with your help we will.

# AWARD

Engineering Technician Gregory Josephs, Design, was recently awarded a scholarship worth $2100 by Drexel University Evening College. At the Honors Convocation on Wednesday, April 30, 1986, he received the Kenneth Riddle Memorial Scholarship, which provides tuition remission for two courses per quarter for three school quarters in 1986-87.

Gregory, a Philadelphia native, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science from Regents College. He is now studying Electrical Engineering, with a concentration in Power Engineering. Gregory hopes to graduate in June 1989.

Gregory has been active in evening college student activities, participating in the Student Branch of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Gregory has been with the department since March 1980.

• • •

## BIRTHS

Sharon Conway-Brown, Distribution, a baby girl on November 25, 1985.

Cynthia Rettig, Water and Wastewater Analysis, a baby girl on April 7, 1986.

John Durrant, Materials Testing Laboratory, a baby girl on February 6, 1986.

Margaret Hagood, Finance, a baby boy on February 25, 1986.

David Linahan, Northeast Abatement, a baby boy on March 28, 1986.

David Weber, Northeast Abatement, a baby girl on October 24, 1985.

Nilesh Amin, Northeast Abatement, a baby girl on January 14, 1986.

Gail Maenner, Northeast Abatement, a baby girl on March 1, 1986.

## WEDDINGS

Earl Hines, Distribution and Sandra Adams on April 19, 1986.

Joe Mullen, Finance, and Sue Gersthauer on May 31, 1986.

Judy Ruley, Executive, and Bill Collier on May 31, 1986.

## RETIREES

Theodore Baruch, Water & Wastewater Labs, on April 14, 1986 after 36 years of service.

Leroy Millard, Emergency & Support Services, on June 5 after 35 years of service.

Dave Garr, SWWPC, on May 20 after 31 years of service.

*Alberta Hairston*

*Willie Burton*

## OBITUARY

Alberta Hairston, NEWPCP, died on Sunday March 2, 1986. She was the payroll clerk for 29 years before retiring in 1984.

Willie Burton, Water Operations, died on February 2, 1986. He worked for the department for 18 years and most recently as the operator of the gas pumps at 29th & Cambria.

*Bottom row (L to R): Abbas Shahrokh, Joe Ferrero, Mike Schramm. Top row (L to R): Bob Britt, Joanne Dahme, Brian Mohl, Tony Kopicki*

# THREE IN A ROW

For the third year in a row, the Southeast Construction volleyball team won the Water Department Volleyball League, snatching victory from the anxious hands of the Water Design squad. Although the Southeast squad would not affirm the rumors that the entire team had spent a month in a Soviet volleyball training camp, they did concede that the final match with Design was a harrowing one.

# T-SHIRT FUN

The irrepressible Sewer Express was right on track again for the Broad Street 10 Mile Run on May 1. Dressed in formal runwear (black t-shirt and mouse ears), the squad from Southeast Construction stumbled across the finish line to mark their third successful year in the event.

First to finish was Captain Marc Breslow (age before ability), with a respectable 1:21. Joanne Dahme, Abbas Shahrokh, and Rich Cortese, erratically followed Marc's path. Tony Kopicki and Brian Mohl heroically finished with delicate strides, in the company of fellow Express member Tricia O'Connor. The Express is presently training for any race in which they are assured a t-shirt.

PIPELINE
NEWSLETTER

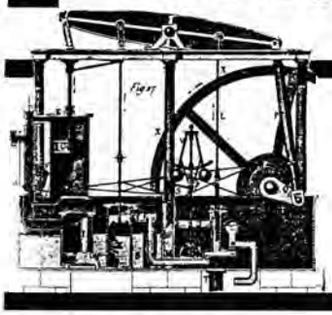
Pipeline is published by the Customer Affairs Division for the employees of the Water Department.

Maureen Sullivan ..... Editor
Joanne Dahme ..... Staff Writer

# PIPELINE NEWSLETTER

PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT WINTER EDITION 1986

## INSIDE



# WHAT'S PUMPING

## EDUCATION LEADS TO ADVANCEMENT FOR VANLEE IRVIN

Vanlee Irvin, SWWPC, grandmother of 3, came to the City of Philadelphia in 1966 as a Library Assistant I in the Music Department of the Main Free Library of Philadelphia.

She took courses offered by the Water Department at Spring Garden College in Maintenance Mechanics from 1981 to 1984 and came to the Water Department in January of 1983 as a trainee. She received a provisional Maintenance Mechanic I appointment in the summer of 1984 and permanent appointment in May, 1985. She was promoted to Maintenance Mechanic II in November 1985. P

## UNDERCOVER VIRTUOSO

Nancy Carter, SWWP, studied the piano under Miss Marie F. Busch for many years, from the time she was a little girl through her teen years. Then she studied organ for several years with Dr. J. Edward Hoy, one of the great organists of our time, and the Minister of Music at Tindley Temple United Methodist Church. Mrs. Carter is presently employed as a clerk typist II. She is the current accompaniest for the Interdenominational Male Chorus directed by William P. Ellis. On many occasions she has served as organist at area churches, including Simpson-Fletcher, where she was recently featured in a recital. P

Francis Costello, Analytical Chemist II, Materials Testing Laboratory, was awarded a Ph.D. degree in Physical Chemistry by Temple University in January, 1985. P

Bill Horger, Sludge Management, received 3 gallon donor pin from American Red Cross on September 20, 1985. P

In September, long time employee Jasper Brown, Inlet Cleaning, passed away. P

John J. McClary and John G. Daniel, both members of PE's Shotokan Karate Club made it to the quarter-finals before being eliminated in international karate championship competition in Tokyo, Japan the beginning of last month.

John G. Daniel is the brother of Inlet Cleaning's Joan Daniel. P

At the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant we have another first. Wilhelmina Bailey started with the City over seventeen years ago as a Hospital Aide at Philadelphia General Hospital. After nine years of service, she came to the Water Department, Northeast Plant as a Laborer. Four years later she acquired the position of Plant Helper at the Southwest WPCP. Always striving for improvement, she attended the classes offered by the Water Department to prepare employees for the Treatment Plant Operator position. She completed the 30 hour course, passed the TPO I test and for the past seven months she has earned the respect of her peers, is a responsible and dedicated worker and considered an asset to the crew. Wilhelmina is an active church worker, loves to cook and a proud grandmother, who loves a challenge. P

## BULLETIN BOARD

Marty Goldberg, IWU, became a liscensed professional engineer in September, 1985.

Water Department employees have contributed $101,224.00 to the 1986 Combined City Campaign as of December 16, 1985.

Mike Nelson, Chief, WPC, left the Water Department on December 6 for a job with a consulting firm that manages small wastewater facilities. He was with the Water Department for over 20 years and we wish him success.

# SUMMER SLOGAN PLAYS SMART


*Placing hydrant abuse poster on Water Department trucks, Joan Fredette, Customer Affairs, Anibal Roman, Distribution and Drew Brown, Customer Affairs.*

PHILADELPHIA, PA.– The Department 'rapped' up a successful summer campaign that reduced water lost from illegally opened hydrants by 46 percent. "We asked our residents to 'Play Smart' in a vigorous campaign this summer and they responded," said Joan B. Fredette, Manager of Customer Affairs.

As much as 148 million gallons of water a day pours from illegally opened fire hydrants every summer. This abuse costs Philadelphia almost $500,000 a year in unnecessary expenses. This summer, though, the city conserved an estimated 1.2 billion gallons of water, saving at least $300,000.

Although Philadelphia was pleased with the financial savings, this year's drought emergency in Philadelphia really prompted its action. Shortly after the Delaware River Basin Commission declared the drought emergency on May 13, the Water Department began a campaign to persuade youngsters to stop opening hydrants.

A public service announcement entitled, "Play Smart, Philadelphia" aired all summer on both television and radio throughout the Philadelphia area. The spots began just before July 4, the first major holiday after school vacation began.

Fashioned after the popular "rap" music, the PSA featured a "Water Rap" that told city youth, "Hydrants are for fires, not for fun." The PSA featured young dancers 'playing smart' at a public swimming pool, on a basketball court and in a park. The five commercial television stations in Philadelphia aired the spot more than 225 times this summer.

Philadelphians did take the hydrant campaign seriously. Average hydrant abuse fell from 41 million gallons per day in 1984 to 22 million gallons per day in 1985 – a 46 percent decrease. On hot summer days, peak abuse also fell 46 percent to 80 million gallons this year from 148 gallons last year. Operations' hydrant and shut off crews responded quickly and effectively to the 1566 calls received by customer information, reporting opened hydrants from mid-July to mid-August. That brought hydrant abuse well below the average residential use of 118 million gallons a day.

The Water Department supported the PSA's with other elements of the "Play Smart" campaign. Flyers with the words to the "Water Rap" were given to school children a few days before summer vacation. Also, thousands of people using public transportation or walking on the streets of Philadelphia saw the "Play Smart" posters on the overhead panels of mass transit vehicles, and the sides of city trucks. P

# GATE VALVES CUT COSTS.

The Baxter Water Treatment Plant is in the middle of a 10 year innovative program to replace aging 42" gate valves in the washwater system. The gate valves are being replaced with 36" butterfly inserts which are custom manufactured to seat within the existing gate valve discs but the repairs were short lived. The butterfly inserts have shown to be cost-effective both in original cost and labor to install. The mechanical staff currently can take down the 7500 lb. gate valve bonnet with disc and install the butterfly insert before breaking for lunch. Formerly, it would take up to 1 1/2 days to do the job. The difference in time is due to the men becoming more familiar with the job and the purchasing and fabrication of labor saving equipment.

The question is often asked why the plant doesn't contract out the work. After all, modifications to 42" valves aren't exactly routine maintenance. The answer is that the Baxter mechanical staff led by Utility Operations Maintenance Group Leader, John Monahan and assisted by the other trade groups through the coordination of John Horger (Supervisor) can do the work cheaper, safer and more effectively than an outside contractor. P

# NORTHEAST

## A COMMITMENT TO CLEAN-UP

A decade and a half ago, America's focus turned toward the environment. Amidst the protests of picketers at waste-dumping factories and from the podium of "Earth Day" rallies, a mandate was sent forth from the American people to all levels of government to enact legislation to protect the environment. In 1972, Public Law 92-500, "The Clean Water Act," was passed. It required that all wastewater treatment plants be "secondary" facilities and that their effluent water quality standards be essentially doubled.

The Clean Water Act was more than just a decree. It was a federal challenge put before the nation's wastewater utilities to clean up the country's rivers and streams. To provide incentive, Washington made available grant money that would cover 75% of the cost of these water pollution control projects.

Since its founding nearly two hundred years ago, the Philadelphia Water Department has recognized its commitment to environmental protection and public health. In 1923, the Department began construction of the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant, Philadelphia's first wastewater treatment facility. In 1955, the Northeast Plant was expanded into a secondary facility, thereby improving the quality of wastewater which flowed into the Delaware River. It was, therefore, quite natural for the Water Department to take the initiative when the federal government offered to help finance wastewater treatment expansion.

"The Philadelphia Water Department planned carefully in order to meet its obligations to its customers and to federal law," said William Wankoff, Chief of Water Pollution Control Plants.

According to Wankoff, back in the late 1960's, the Water Department began pilot studies to determine which designs of secondary treatment plants were most effective in large scale operations, and to investigate to what degree Philadelphia might expand and improve upon its existing facilities. Early planning gave the Department a head start and the chance to address the project from many viewpoints.

"The project was not designed in a vacuum, nor did we receive a canned package," said Stewart Cameron, Northeast Plant Superintendent. "One of the interesting concepts at that time was that there was going to be input from people in the field: operators, maintenance people, electricians, and instrumentation technicians. Also in the plans were specifications that took into consideration the communities' and the employees' welfare. Accounted for were

*"Philadelphia has emer leader among the nati structing state-of-the-ar plants."*

## RISING THROUGH THE RANKS, It's all in the family

It's one thing being supervised by your older brother when you are sitting around the house, but quite another when you're out on the job. But back in the early 1950's, John Ferrero didn't have much choice in the matter. It was thanks to his older brother, Ernest L. Ferrero, that John heard about an opening the District 5 Survey Department. When John found that he was serving as rod and chainman in his older brother's crew ...What could he do?

"He tried to keep me on my toes," said John Ferrero when speaking about his older brother. "And I found that I worked harder too, because I didn't want anyone to get the idea that he would show me preferential treatment."

From the other side of the coin, Ernest L. admitted, "I really took my younger brother to task. Sometimes, I think I was a little too tough on him.

In those days, the Ferrero brothers drove to work together in their 1937 Studebaker.

They shared a talent for doing construction work, and the distinction that each had started their careers at the bottom rung of the Water Department ladder. Both had started out as rod and chainman in the Survey Unit.

John continued doing construction and eventually worked his way up to Engineering Technician 3. But for Ernest L., who studied engineering at the Drexel University night school, promotions to transitman, junior surveyor, and then surveyor came quickly. By the mid-1950's

# SOUTHEAST

things such as odor control, pleasing architecture, instrumentation which was designed with the operator in mind, and an agreeable work environment."

Basically, the plan called for the renovation and expansion of the Department's three existing treatment plants, the Northeast Plant and the Southeast and Southwest Plants, two primary treatment facilities, which were built in the mid 1950's. Lastly, the plan called for the construction of a number of new sewers and interceptors, along with new pumping stations.

*ged in the eighties as a on's large cities in con- water pollution control*

The Water Department applied for federal grant money for these projects, but scheduling and funding problems delayed the start of construction. The delays were resolved when a Consent Decree was drawn up between the Department, the EPA, the Delaware River Basin Commission, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources. The Consent Decree established a timetable for the plants to be on-line and meeting effluent water quality standards. Deputy Commissioner Thomas Walton said, "Despite the delays, Philadelphia has emerged in the 80's as a leader among large cities in constructing state-of-the-art water pollution control plants."

Site preparation began at the Southwest Plant in October of 1975. The first of its new processes was brought on-line in December, 1979. The plant successfully satisfied the Consent Decree standards in November, 1983. The Northeast Plant was to be on-line and attaining effluent standards by December 8, 1985. The Southeast Plant has until January, 1987, when it will undergo EPA scrutiny.

The large size and complexity of the effort to upgrade the three wastewater treatment plants created many new challenges for Water Department employees. All three plants faced similar problems, so the experience gained at the Southwest Plant was valuable at those renovated later.

"The killer was that we had to keep these plants in operation while the construction was going on," said Bob Britt, Resident Engineer at the Southeast Plant. "That's what really made the work more challenging." At the Southeast Plant, coordination between the construction element and the operations staff was carried out by Britt and Jim Nicolo, Southeast Plant Superintendent. Britt's staff of 25 is made up of engineers, clerical people, and inspectors, whom he called "the eyes and ears of the City." It's Britt's responsibility to ensure construction quality, to make sure the work is finished on schedule, and to handle contractors' claims and disputes. Nicolo, on the other hand, has to make sure his plant continues to run and meet

(Continued on page 6)

he had reached Civil Engineer 1 (CE1), and he had set a pace for himself which lead him through CE2, CE3, Division Engineer (CE4), and finally to Administrative Engineer, where he assisted the Chief of Construction for the Water Department. Ernest L. retired from the Water Department in 1979, but not before his two sons, Ernest and Joseph, followed in his footsteps.

Like his father and uncle, the younger Ernest started as rod and chainman in the Survey Unit. After three years, he left the Department to apprentice as a brick mason, but seven years later came back to the Water Department. Benefiting from courses offered by the Department, Ernest spent the next nine years working his way up from operation trainee at the Baxter Plant to Bridge Maintenance and General Construction Inspector.

He said that he found it more difficult now to rise through the ranks as his father did, especially, if one doesn't have a college education. He also said that there is a "hitch" to raising a family and trying to attend night school. "If you continually go to night school, you have to take more time away from your family. And that's a hard sacrifice to make."

Like his brother, father and uncle, Joseph worked from the bottom up. He began as a brick mason in sewer maintenance and rose to Water Sewer Maintenance Crew Chief.

Ernest L. Ferrero, who was the trailblazer for his family, said his success was based on three things. He had an innate ability for construction work. He enjoyed what he did. And he received a great education. Currently, he is doing consultant work, but he still takes an interest in his sons work. "I try to push them on," he said. His advice to those starting out is to benefit as much as possible from courses and educational opportunities offered by the Water Department.

Ernest L. also has a nephew, Andrew Ferrero, who works as an operator at the Southeast. Since he's only been there two years, it's too early to see if he too will emulate his family and rise through the ranks.

(Continued from page 5)

effluent limitations, while responding to demands made by construction engineers to divert water flow, drain tanks, or start or stop pumps.

Originally, the Southeast Plant was just a primary treatment facility. During the present construction, the primary plant was completely renovated. Six new 70 million gallon per day (MGD) pumps were installed, raising the average daily plant flow up to 140 MGD, with the potential to increase in the future.

The secondary treatment section at the Southeast Plant is all new, and is designed around a 'Pure Oxygen Activated Sludge System.' What this means is that pure oxygen, which is generated on-site, mixes with wastewater and sludge in closed tanks during secondary treatment. This has the advantage of taking up less space and giving off less odors than open tanks using air. As a result of this expansion, operations staffing at Southeast will have gone from roughly 45 to 90 employees. To date, approximately $140 million has been spent on the project.

with compressed air. The plant's average daily flow is around 210 MGD and as a result of the expansion, personnel will have gone up from roughly 70 to 154.

The fact that the Northeast Plant is bordered by a residential community presented additional pressures for construction and operations people. Money was spent on a street cleaner and crew to vacuum dirt and dust which heavy equipment tracked through neighborhood streets. Installing and bringing new treatment equipment on-line resulted in days of worse-than-normal odor emissions. The local residents complained to Cameron.

But the Northeast Plant can co-exist with a residential community. This area has undergone an evolution from a primarily industrial zone to one with more homeowners. Cameron feels that many of the complaints are just a consequence of this transition, and that longtime residents will admit that Northeast odor emissions have improved over the years.

Expansion of the Southwest, Northeast and Southeast Plants has made tangible improvements to the Delaware River. Fish and wildlife observers have noticed a comeback in certain varieties of fish and plant life. Cleaning up the waterfront will almost certainly add to the City's tax based revenues as recreation, boating, and residential developments increase along the river. Water Department employees have benefited from new technology and the many hours of training that have been offered at the treatment plants. Private industry and Water Department customers all reap the profit from this program, which is based simply on a commitment made by the Philadelphia Water Department toward environmental protection and public health.

"What made this project a success," said Nicolo, "were the people involved. All Water Department people and at every level."

*"What made this project a success," said Nicolo, "were the people involved. All Water Department people and at every level."*

The same dynamic interaction between construction and operations also took place at the Northeast Plant, here coordinated by Resident Engineer Richard Haneiko and Plant Superintendent Cameron. The same flexibility and teamwork was again required by each party, but this was compounded by two additional factors, a larger construction schedule and the Plant's location.

Where 60 subcontractors might have been working at the Southeast Plant, Haneiko at his busiest would have to juggle the claims and disputes of 200 contractors. Already, $320 million have been spent on the renovation of the Northeast Plant and construction projects will continue for the next five years. Renovation to the primary section of the plant was similar to that done at Southeast; however, its secondary treatment section uses a semi-enclosed tank system with rotating biological contractors, in which wastewater and sludge are mixed

# COMPUTERIZED INLET CLEANING

Arrival of Fall brings scheduled work to Inlet Cleaning Unit. This year the recent activation of Geographic Retrievals through the Computer Operations of the Inlet Cleaning Operations Information System, (ICOIS), is enabling the Foreman to process blocks of scheduled cleaning work through the computer, generating work tickets and assigning crews faster and in a more efficient manner than previous years. Through this medium, office processing of daily work tickets has also been expedited. Employees of the office staff as well as field personnel look forward to the day, all of the City of Philadelphia is in full operation through the ICOIS permanently.

# TAKE IT FROM JOE, BE A BIG BROTHER

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Philadelphia needs your help. If you have a few hours each week to spend with a fatherless boy or a single parent girl, consider building a relationship with a little brother or little sister.

There are offices throughout the City and staff workers are eager to assist and answer questions.

Joe Cerrone, Industrial Waste, is an active Big Brother and is available and willing to recruit Water Department Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Contact Joe at 335-8093.

# SPECIAL THANKS

A note of "thanks" to all employees who worked during the crisis of Gloria. "You really did a dynamite job even under unfavorable conditions".

# 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

**On October 15, 1985, 48 Water Department employees were honored at an awards ceremony and luncheon for 25 years of dedicated service.**

Pearl Montgomery
Virginia Williams
Joseph Ford
Hester Robinson
James Washington
Thomas Jackson
Daniel McCusker
Hervey Leschinsky
Samuel Henley
Gerald Caya
Edward Graves
Shirley Myers
James Wilkerson
William Moore
John Lee
Timothy Harris
Wilbert Travis
George Harvey
Earley Reaves
Norman White
Leon Wilson
Robert Wortham
James Kenny
William Verdell

Horace Bradley
Thomas Smith
Vincent Stockmal
Oscar Edwards
Herbert Cocley
Donald Limongelli
Hugh Myers
John Wiliamson, Jr.
Harold Allen
Thomas Hawkins
Clarence King
Norman Przeworski
Edmond Edwards
Joseph Pitts
Harold Lawson, Jr.
Calvin Johnson
Richard Thompson

Douglas McCoy, Jr.
John Schoolfield
Thomas White
Luther Fairley
Robert Dixon
Aaron Smith

# LOCAL 394 PICNIC August 17, 1985

*It was fun in the sun for some 1,000 union members at the great Local 394 Annual Picnic. Something for everyone best describes it: for children there were all sorts of activity and dance contests, prizes and pony rides; while members grooved at the all day disco or geared-up with some softball and volleyball, or just relaxed and enjoyed the atmosphere, the people, and the smorgasbord of delectables before them. Rumor has it, it was "heaven from 11 to 7".*

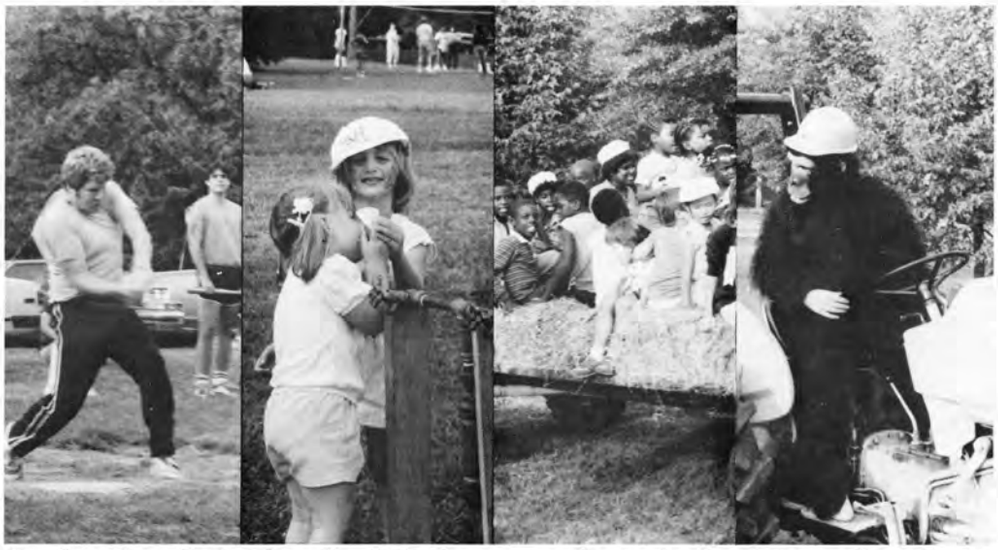
# THINK SPRING

CANOEING! SWIMMING! FISHING! WATER FIGHTS! PICNICKING! That's what in store for the coming Spring on the Schuylkill River - there are a couple of us river paddlers who are organizing a Spring canoe trip down the Schuylkill. We are planning a one-day, 3-5 hour tour down the Schuylkill River, beginning at Flat Rock Dam, floating past Manayunk Canal, picnicking in Fairmount Park, and ending at Boathouse Row near the Fairmount Waterworks. We are discussing logistics, equipment needs, and costs with the Philadelphia Canoe Club, who could provide the necessities. Nothing concrete has emerged yet, but we all agree such an event would be informative and a heck of a good FUN time!

This early announcement is to solicit a response from anyone who would be interested in joining us. Let us hear of your ideas and interest, and if you can contribute time and energy in putting it all together.

Contact: Matt Miller
One Reading Center, 5th Floor
592-6180 or 592-6110

# 5TH ANNUAL PICNIC LARGEST YET!



On Saturday, September 21, 1985 the Water Department held its 5th Annual Employee Picnic at the Ohio House in Fairmont Park.

More than 400 employees, family and friends enjoyed a day of good weather, games, music and food. Mayor Goode made a surprise visit, signing autographs, posing for photographs, and mingling with employees and their families.

The picnic's attendance has grown in size each year and the weather has been exceptional for early fall. Next year's picnic is scheduled for September 20, same place, same time. See you there!

# COURSES AND DEMONSTRATIONS

The Safety Office has numerous courses in safety available to all employees of the Unit. Any employee may enroll by contacting his or her immediate supervisor.

## BIRTHS

Roger Dann, Belmont, a baby boy, Christopher, 9lb./3oz., on October 17, 1985.

Paul Kopicki, Plant Expansion, a baby boy, January 6, 1985.

Tom Ferguson, Plant Expansion, a baby boy, May 14, 1985.

James Sutton, Security, a baby boy, Brandon, on June 5, 1985, 9lb./1oz.

Geoff Brock, Bureau of Laboratory Services, a baby boy, Jonathan Edward, on August 4, 1985.

Oscar Maier, NEWPC, a baby boy on August 28, 1985.

Art Fagerstrom, NEWPC, a baby boy on May 10, 1985.

Joseph Capella, Projects Control, a baby boy on December 13, 1985.

John Conroy, NEWPC, a baby boy on September 9, 1985.

Norman Jadczak, NEWPC, a baby boy on November 20, 1985.

Joe Heffron, NEWPC, a baby girl on November 15, 1985.

## ENGAGEMENTS

Everett Ewell, Emergency Support Services, engaged to Patricia Diggs. A spring wedding date will be announced.

Judy Ruley, Operation Administration, engaged to Bill Collier. A spring wedding is planned.

## WEDDINGS

Rick Rogers (Aquatic Biologist, BLS) and Melissa Heckler were married September 21, 1985. After honeymooning in Maine, the couple now reside in Roxborough.

PIPELINE
NEWSLETTER

Pipeline is published by the Customer Affairs Division for the employees of the Water Department.

Maureen Sullivan ..... Editor
(215) 592-6144

# PIPELINE NEWSLETTER

PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT SUMMER EDITION 1987


# Booking It.

**"That's what I'm here for."**
**"I know where you can get it."**
**"No question is too big or too small. No piece of information is beyond our reach. We can go beyond this City."**

Pretty powerful words, words that would typically describe a vast organization that is in control. An organization that is confident, knowledgeable, an organization in which *nothing* is beyond its grasp.

IBM? General Motors you may think? No, these words are underlined in *purple*, and if that's not a sufficient clue, then perhaps we ought to come right out and tell you...

We're talking about the Water Department's own library, located on the 3rd floor of ARA. When journeying to the library, don't be fooled by the purple decor which highlights every aspect of the library...purple pens, purple paper, purple paintings, purple clothes. Ginger Ertz, the Water Department's librarian, has a purple passion and it's reflected in everything Ginger owns.

However, purple can also signify power. And the Water Department has one *powerful* library. Our own library is a historian's gold mine...annual reports dating back to 1801, old prints and manuscripts which detail the development of Philadelphia and its richly defined history.

However, it will also soon be a futurist's dream. From what once started as a "storage but not service" type "closet" library located in the MSB, our present library has grown to boast a collection which holds over 200 magazine subscriptions and over 3000 volumes of reference, engineering, and science related material. In the not-so-distant future, our library will possess its own Database system which will be hooked up to a Dialog service, making the search for particular articles or references pertaining to all realms of water/wastewater resources incredibly simple. By cross-referencing combinations such as subject and item of interest, e.g., aeration tank and cleaning, or subject and author, the gathering of such information which once may have taken days now will take 15 minutes.

In-house applications will include subject indexing to all departmental news clippings, consultant reports, magazine records and book order status. Over 300 different data bases, ranging from such specialities as chemical engineering to research and planning methodology, will be available.

To lend a quick rundown of exactly what type of documents our library contains, a summary of aisle by aisle contents will give you a fair idea.

***Aisle One***: All types of reference books, e.g., Webster's Unabridged Dictionary,

*(continued on page 5)*

## INSIDE

# New Compost Facility Update

*By Mary Ellen Woodrow*
*Sludge Management*

*Inside of Receiving/Mixing building showing conveyor belts leading to mixing end of building*

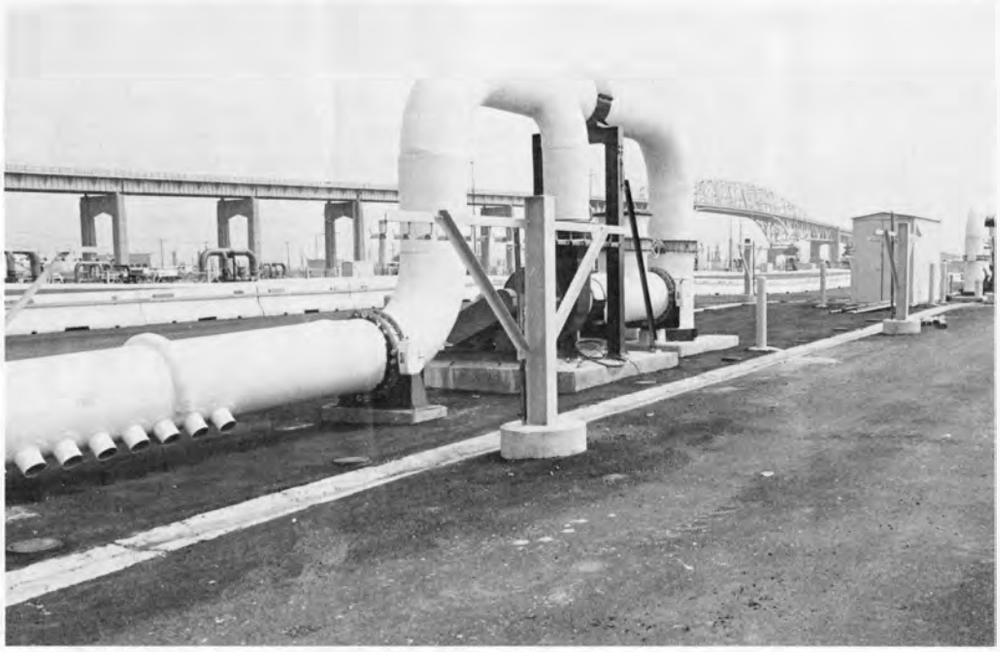
As we all are aware, the Water Department is presently nearing the completion of its $900 million expansion program to upgrade our three wastewater treatment plants. Consequently, as the level of wastewater treatment improved, additional quantities of sludge were produced. Currently, approximately 200 dry tons of sludge are produced daily at the City's two dewatering stations, which handle the sludge from all three treatment plants. The Department estimates that by 1988, the present quantity of sludge generated will increase to an estimated 306 dry tons per day.

The existing composting facilities cannot accommodate the additional sludge. Consequently, the City initiated the development of a large scale composting facility, the Sludge Processing and Distribution Center (SPDC), and construction began in September '85. Upon its completion in the fall of '88, the facility will be capable of processing up to 400 dry tons of sludge daily. This federally funded facility will be the largest in the U.S. and one of the largest in the world.

The SPDC, located adjacent to the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant (SWWPCP), will dewater and compost sludge from all three of the City's treatment plants. Sludge produced at the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant (NEWPCP), will be thickened and anaerobically digested, barged to the S.W. unloading station, and then pumped to storage tanks at the SPDC. Sludge from the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant (SEWPCP), is currently pumped underground to the SWWPCP where it is thickened and digested. In the future, the combined digested sludge will then be pumped to the centralized dewatering building, which contains 10 centrifuges. In addition to the dewatering facility, the SPDC will include an operations and maintenance center, a mixing and receiving building, drying building, the woodchip recovery system, the 5.5 acre curing area, 15 acres of compost storage, the 4.0 acre woodchip storage area, an 18 acre composting pad, two 1-million gallon barges, docking facilities, and vehicle wash, fuel and weigh stations.

The first phase of the facility which includes the Mixing/Receiving Building, the Operations and Maintenance Center and the 18 acre Compost Pad is scheduled for start-up this fall. In the Mixing/Receiving Building, screw conveyors will feed the dewatered, digested sludge from two sludge loading bins onto the mixed feed conveyor belts containing woodchips supplied from the two woodchip bins. When the future dewatering building is completed, the sludge can be conveyed directly from the dewatering building and onto the mixed feed conveyor belts, thereby eliminating the need for the sludge loading bins. The sludge and woodchips are then transported on conveyor belts through a

*(continued on next page)*



*Aeration Piping System and Motor Control Center on portion of Compost Pad*

# It Pays To Think

This spring's Employee Suggestion Awards Ceremonies were held at the ARA Tower at Reading Center on May 22; the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant on May 29; and the Belmont Water Treatment Plant on June 2, to honor the six Water Department employees for their winning suggestions.

At each celebration Commissioner Marrazzo expressed his appreciation towards the outstanding group of employees whose suggestions will help improve the quality of service to our customers and ultimately lower the cost of water and sewer services through a more efficient operation.

The Employee Suggestion Program has been in existence for approximately one year now. The major purpose of the Program is to offer employees the chance to express their ideas concerning the efficient management of their own units, providing a better way to do a job, thereby improving water and sewer service to our customers. If a suggestion is selected by the Committee, a cash amount of 10% of the first year's net savings is awarded the employee.

Adelyn Matthews, an employee in the Accounting Unit, took the biggest prize home. Addie was awarded $896 for her suggestion to reduce Procurement interfund charges by eliminating 22 Purchase Requisitions, and to use the petty cash system instead. The other winning suggestions were submitted by the following employees: Donald Limongelli of the Baxter Water Treatment Plant was awarded $60 for recommending the establishment of a recycling program at Baxter. Bottles and cans will be collected and sold to recycling centers. Joseph Bresnan of the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant was awarded $63 for his suggestion which reduced the labor time spent on maintaining and repairing screw conveyor equipment. Joseph Wawrzyniak, also of the Southeast Plant, was awarded $699 for his suggestion which reduced the electrical costs at Southeast by installing timers, replacing incandescent lights with florescents, and removing unnecessary lights. James Clement of Sewer Maintenance was awarded $100 for his design of a hook and cable system to lift sewer manhole covers and sections of pipe. Gerson Korntreger of the Bureau of Laboratory Services was awarded $50 for his suggestion which resulted in the reduction of the improper use of postage stamps.

If you have a hot suggestion which you feel is a sure winner, call 592-6169 for more information or write to: Administration & Human Resources, ARA Tower, One Reading Center, 5th Floor, Phila., PA 19107, Attention Employee Suggestion Program.

## New Compost Facility *(con't from previous page)*

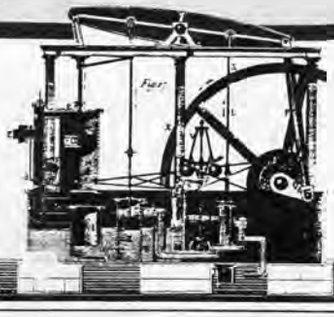
tunnel to three Pug Mills for mixing. Two counter-rotating screws in each mill will blend the sludge and chips to form a homogenous mixture and will then push the mixture onto discharge conveyors. From these conveyor belts, the fresh compost mixture will be discharged, using plows, into trucks that will transport the mix to the composting pad. The active composting area will consist of an asphalt paved area for construction of the static compost piles, an aeration piping system with 75 horsepower centrifugal blowers, a leachate and condensate collection system and odor control provisions.

The second phase of the facility, which is scheduled to be completed by spring of next year, includes the Drying and Woodchip Recovery Systems. An aeration system will be provided in the drying building to further reduce compost moisture after curing for 30 days. The woodchip recovery system includes four screening systems with twin trommel screens and a rated capacity of 300 cubic yards per hour. After screening, recovered woodchips are discharged to their storage area via conveyor belt and screened compost can be stored in one of three on-site areas or in an off-site storage area until the product is distributed through one of the utilization programs.

The centralized new Dewatering Building is scheduled for completion in the fall of by which time, the sludge holding and transfer station at the NEWPCP, the new docking facilities and the two sludge barges should be completed.

Lastly, the SPDC will then be equipped with a computer monitoring system to record compost pile temperatures, equipment status and compost product inventory and destination.

Once the entire facility is completed and in operation, Philadelphia will become the largest producer of compost products and one of the few major U.S. cities to successfully implement a sludge recycling program.



# WHAT'S PUMPING

## Safety Incentives

*By Ben Aptaker, Safety Office*

On June 12, 1987, The Safety Office had its Third Annual Safety Incentive Award presentation. The presentation took place in the form of a luncheon and a drawing for prizes. Representatives from thirty-two units, chosen at random from lists of employees who had gone without lost time due to injury, or without preventable motor vehicle collisions in 1985 were invited to take part in the luncheon and drawing. Top prize was a one-thousand dollar savings bond, which was won by Xavier Moozhikkattu, of BLS. Five hundred dollar bonds were won by Denise Clayton of Security Services, and William Neary from Pumping. One hundred dollar bonds were won by Floyd Bailey, NE Plant; Earl Gray, Plant Maintenance; Joseph Morrow, Industrial Waste; James Murphy, Building Maintenance; Ernest Poaches,

Meter Shop; and Robert Stevens, Sewer Maintenance. In addition, fifty dollar savings bonds were won by Roman Chodak, Baxter Plant; Andrew Cottone, Queen Lane Filter Plant; Ronald Eldridge, Materials Testing Lab; Charles Feeney, Pumping; James Gaddy, Sewer Maintenance; George Kunkel, Load Control; Clarence Nixon, Sludge Management; and Joseph Yon, Jr., of SW Plant. Candidates from other units got a consolation prize of a tennis visor with the legend "Working Safely." A total of 144 visors were distributed to other eligible candidates throughout the department. P

## Sludge Barge Contest

The Sludge barges have been baptized! In a popular contest frought with over 150 "serious" entries, depending of course on whether you consider such nomenclatures as "the good ship lollypoop" as a serious contender, choosing two names for our fleet was no easy task. However, the names submitted by Philip Carey of Design, the "Recycler" and the "Resource" were deemed to shine above the rest. Philip will be receiving a check for $100 from the Employee Suggestion Committee. In the near future, the flags of the "Recycler" and the "Resource" will be flapping proudly along their journeys up and down the Delaware River. P

## A Good Deed

*By Jake Bressler, Data Management*

Before leaving on my vacation, I happened to be in a bookstore on Walnut Street and couldn't help overhearing the owner tell a customer on the telephone that the book he wanted was published in England and that it would be several months before it could be available for delivery. After he hung up, I told him that I would be stopping in London for a few days on my way to Israel and that I would try to find a copy of the book which was called "Eating for Health."

When we got to London, there was a bookstore a few doors from the hotel. While my wife was looking for books for our grandchildren, the manager told me that he had run out of copies of "Eating for Health" and that he expected to receive additional copies the following week. When I indicated that I would be leaving England on the weekend, he suggested that I try another bookstore a few blocks away in Covent Garden. There was only one copy of the book left in that shop, and since it did not look new, the manager gave me a 40% discount.

When, after we got back to Philadelphia, I brought the book to the store on Walnut Street, the owner said that I made his day. I may have made all of twenty-five cents on the transaction, but somehow the jet-lag I had been experiencing seemed to have disappeared. P

## Employee of the Month

Michael Pence, a Water Department employee and resident of Roxborough, was one of five city employees honored by Mayor W. Wilson Goode on April 10 with the "City Employee of the Month" award. During the ceremony held in the Mayor's Reception Room, Mayor Goode commented upon Mike's outstanding service to the public.

"In addition to your professional accomplishments, you have found the time to devote yourself to counseling handicapped students and teaching non-readers to read, which is indicative of the finest tradition of public service and selfless effort."

Mike is a Scientific Application Systems Analyst with the Planning and Research Division and has been with the Department since 1972. Mike provides systems analysis and mathematical support to the engineering efforts of the Water Department. In addition, Mike's expertise has been utilized by the Fire Department to analyze fire death trends and by the Managing Director's Office to develop mathematical models simulating trash vehicle routing.

Mike began his education in chemistry at Illinois University, but a physical handicap resulting from cerebral palsy prevented him from performing the required laboratory work. Mike switched majors and obtained his degree in mathematics from Illinois in 1972. While employed with the Water Department, Mike obtained his Masters degree from Drexel University. And now he is currently pursuing courses in his original major — chemistry.

Besides these many academic and professional accomplishments, Mike has found time to devote himself to counseling other handicapped students. As they choose a career, they are just beginning to face some of the obstacles which Mike has overcome. Mike's counseling is part of a program, directed by the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, which provides data processing training to disabled adults. The program has successfully placed many of its graduates into com-

*(continued on next page)*

# Water Department Logo Contest

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

What's in a logo? Logos can sometimes make or break a company or product. Logos can be simple and conservative, such as the "W" of Westinghouse or the "ge" of General Electric, or unusual and quirky, such as the splash of red adopted by the Adams Mark Hotel on City Line.

The Water Department felt it was time for a new image. We wanted a logo that people would recognize easily, a logo whose colors and form would convey a department which is friendly and eager to serve the needs of its customers.

A logo contest was opened to all matriculated undergraduates within Philadelphia's accredited art and design schools in order to obtain an outside appraisal of what our customers expected of us and how we could convey that image.

Over 100 entries were received by the Department, and from these 29 were chosen to be judged by a distinguished panel representing the professional graphic design community, the academic community and the Water Department.

A student at the Philadelphia Colleges of the Arts, Eric E. Doyle, created the winning entry, capturing the grand prize of $250. The 28 honorable mentions all received certificates at the Awards Ceremony held in the ARA lobby in May.

"We wanted a logo that would convey the dynamic interaction between us and our customers; in a sense, one that would bond us to the community," said Water Commissioner Marrazzo. "The winning logo concept most likely will be incorporated as the new design for our Department's uniforms, vehicles and stationery," he added.

## Employee *(con't from previous page)*

petitive computer related careers throughout the Philadelphia area.

More recently, Mike has become involved with the Philadelphia YMCA's Chapter II reading program. Presently he volunteers two nights a week to help non-reading adults learn to read.

These examples point out that Mike Pence has not only made a commitment to be an excellent employee, but to also provide services to the community outside of his City position.

## Booking It *(con't from page 1)*

Government directories, U.S. telephone books, listings of all publications in the U.S., periodicals carried in the Free Library system of Philadelphia, films, old and rare books on Philadelphia architecture and politics.

***Aisle Two***: The Philadelphia Code, City Charter, AWWA Standards, Plumbing Codes, ASTM Standards, NFPA Codes. The library can also get the most up-to-date codes through the inter-library loan.

***Aisle Three***: Publications on Marketing and Finance, Water Quality, Water and Wastewater treatment, Resource Recovery, Hazardous Substances, Hydraulics, Design, Industrial Hygiene, Stormwater Management, Training Materials.

***Aisle Four***: Delaware River Basin Commission documents on River Quality, Public Hearings, Consent Decree, Federal and State laws and regulations such as the Environmental Reporter, water, air, solid waste, mining, chemical laws and regulations, job safety and health requirements, Fair Employment practices, and audio visual materials such as video tapes and slides.

***Aisle Five***: Consultant reports, up-to-date and historical studies on water/wastewater treatment practices (some of which date back to the 1920's), City Ordinances dating back to 1839, City Council procedures back to 1964.

***Aisle Six***: Federal Registers (also available on micro fiche. There is a reader in the library for your use), the Congressional Records, the Pennsylvania Bulletin, and part of the library's periodical collection.

***Aisle Seven***: News clipping files, back issues of the Philadelphia Inquirer, Daily News, and the Wall Street Journal to two and three months plus up-to-date copies and more of the periodical collection.

Instead of worrying, Ginger is proud of the fact that within six months, the library may run out of space for its ever-growing collection. Since 1986, when Ginger came

*(continued on next page)*

## *Picture Perfect*

The Water Department is sponsoring a PHOTO CONTEST for all employees. We know there are a lot of camera bugs out there. We've seen too many of you sneaking in those "vacation" photos to the office. So here's a chance to prove to us all that you really are a potential award-winning photographer by entering the contest. There are two categories from which you can choose to enter: various aspects of the Water Department (which includes facilities, equipment, operations) and the people of the Water Department, shown in their work. First, Second and Third prizes (to be announced in the near future) will be awarded for each category.

Contest rules:

1. Maximum of three photos per photographer.
2. Photographs entered must have been taken within the last two years.
3. Entries must be received by Wednesday, November 18, 1987, 5:00 p.m.
4. Photographs should be submitted with an envelope containing your name, job location, and a description of the photos entered. This information should also be included on the back of each submitted photograph.
5. Photograph size – minimum 8" × 10" not to exceed 11" × 14".
6. Photographs may be either black and white or color prints.
7. Judging will be done by Water Department representatives and members of the Pipeline staff.
8. All entries awarded prizes will become the property of the Water Department.

**Entries should be submitted to:**
**PHOTO CONTEST**
**c/o the Pipeline**
**3rd Floor**
**ARA TOWER**

*For additional information, call 592-6089.*

**Booking It** *(con't from page 5)*

to the Water Department, she has been the driving force behind the transformation of the library from one possessing a meagre assortment of books into a respectable collection of up-to-date scientific reference and resource material.

But of course, without employee use, much of these resources are wasted. Ginger cannot overemphasize that her services, and those of her new library assistant, Lynn Tirado, are there for the benefit of all employees. "I like to maintain a 'current awareness service'. If you are interested in a certain subject, we will keep you up-to-date on it. But unless we get some feedback, we can't know what you need."

A variety of services are available through the library. If you know of a book that can be helpful to your unit, Ginger can purchase it for you through the library's fund for book acquisitions. The book will then become part of the library's collection so that it will also be beneficial to other employees of the Department and add to the library's wealth of information.

The library also keeps a list of all magazine titles. If you are interested in seeing just the Table of Contents from the AWWA Journal each month, let Ginger know and she will mail it off to you. If you are interested in a certain article, check it off and she will send you a copy of the article.

You can also alert Ginger to whatever your general interest is, e.g., lead in drinking water. Your name will go on a list so that every time an article pertaining to this appears in some publication, you will receive a copy of it.

What qualifications you may ask does one need to become such a formidable library manager? Perhaps one that includes Ginger's eclectic background and experience.

Ginger's own library background began when she worked in her hometown library of Bradford, PA while she was in high school. She also worked in the University of Pittsburgh's library while she was obtaining her undergraduate degree in Philosophy, which she received in 1973. From there Ginger went on to the University of Maryland and earned her Master's of Library Science in 1974 while working in the school's Library Science department. After graduation, Ginger was a library assistant in a community college in Virginia, her first professional position.

From there Ginger worked in Temple University's library for three years as a cataloger. Soon though, Ginger began to yearn for a change of pace and gave up libraries for awhile. Following her "real-life" desires as an artist, she began doing fabric art such as quilting and soft sculptures and worked full-time in a fabric store with one interlude as a costume designer for a summer stock theatre.

However, the rebirth of Ginger's "librarian roots" were stirred when she was hired by an Interior Design firm who needed a little help in organizing their firm's small libraries. The firm got more than it bargained for. Ginger created her own system and made it work for the company. It was the first time that Ginger had *her own* library, or actually a variety of "little" libraries within the company, e.g., architecture, engineering, interior design. She handled them all, designing numerical systems and card catalogues.

*(continued on next page)*

# 1987 Retirement Banquet








***Booking It*** *(con't from previous page)*

From there, Ginger began free lancing, setting up small libraries, teaching and picking up speaking engagements on the subject.

By the time Ginger reached the Water Department, she was more than ready to tackle the challenge of setting up the Water Department's library. "I've always liked 'special' libraries best. I'm user-oriented as opposed to rule-oriented because I enjoy setting up my own numbering system, accommodating the users' needs instead of the Library of Congress' rules. Usually after a year, I totally reorganize because I then *know* my users' needs."

Tours for groups of one to 10 employees are offered by appointment. All Ginger requests in return is a tour of your plant or unit facility.

Other "real-life" facts about Ginger: Ginger is first an oil painter. Because it is her true love, she would like to see the Water Department host an Employee Art Show.

Ginger and her husband Michael reside in Port Richmond with their two cats Machin (French for whatshisname) and Minette (little darling.) P

# Big Brother/ Big Sister

There are 800 Big Brothers in Philadelphia. That sounds like a lot, until you learn that there are 1000 Little Brothers, without fathers, waiting for someone to volunteer. Sixty-five percent of these two hundred are minority youths between the ages of seven and 16 years old. They need a friend and a role model to make that big difference in their lives. That friend could be you.

All it takes is two to four hours per week and you can really change a lonely child's life. I've been a Big Brother for eight years and I've enjoyed every minute. If you have any questions or would like an application, stop me at any of our facilities or call me at 335-8093 or 592-6239. Or you can call your local neighborhood Big Brother/Big Sister office:

- Northeast: 332-5400
- Germantown: 247-0344
- Kensington: 739-9191
- West Phila.: 222-4441
- South Phila.: 463-5900
- North Phila.: 223-5655

*Joe Cerrone*
*Industrial Waste*

*Often the Water Department receives letters from our customers praising our employees for a job well done. If your unit should receive any glowing accounts concerning an employee, please forward them to the Pipeline so that we may all share in the good news.*

# Letters From our Customers

Dear Sirs:

On Wednesday, April 8th, the sewer inlets in our area were cleaned. A crew of one female driver and her helper are to be commended. The two worked swiftly and thoroughly. They cleaned not only the sewer but left no smelly, unsightly mess (which has been the case on other cleaning occasions.)

Sorry I did not ask names or get their truck number. At a time when it is easy to find fault, I think it is only fair that you let them know and commend and give credit to these two hard working people. And this is the second year in a row that the woman has done outstanding work.

Mrs. Jean G.
Boudenot St.
Phila.

**The two hard workers were Cleo Williams and James Ravenelle of Inlet Cleaning.*

Geoff Brock
Director of BLS

Dear Mr. Brock:

I'm writing to let you know my appreciation for the way in which my water problem was handled. I started this whole ordeal with a chip on my shoulder expecting the response from the Water Dept. to be the same as many city offices I've had to deal with. I had compiled a whole list of phone numbers to call when I didn't get any cooperation from the Water Dept. But to my surprise you were both responsive and compassionate to my problem.

I also want to tell you what a wonderful person and employee I think you have in Xzavier Mooshekatoo. He was most accommodating in every way. Even down to coming out at 6:30 in the morning to get the samples he needed so as not to inconvenience us. He was very kind and took the time to explain to me everything that he was doing, what the results were and what the best way to handle our problems were.

I can only say thank you for all that you and Xzavier have done to ease my mind and solve my water problem. It's been a pleasure, for a change, dealing with you.

Sincerely,

Anne R.
Passyunk Ave.
Phila.

Dear Mr. Marrazzo:

The water main on West Hortter Street between Wayne and Wissahickon avenues sprang a large leak last Friday, the 12th of June. One of your Water Department crews, working on another lesser leak directly in front of our home spotted the much larger leak and immediately transferred their attention to the more serious problem.

Working in the rain and coping with a fair amount of traffic up and down Hortter Street they found the trouble, removed tons of rock, dirt and mud, cut out a large section of the cast iron main, put in a steel replacement, tested it out and filled in the hole. The whole job was done well and as quickly as could be reasonably expected.

I was home a large part of that day and had a chance to observe much of the operation. All the men there were a credit to your department–each did his job well and expeditiously.

Anticipating that letters complimenting City employees on the performance of their duties may be relatively rare whereas letters of complaint are probably quite numerous, I thought I would take just a minute to tell you directly that this crew was outstanding, well directed and willing to tackle the hard and dirty parts of the job with no delay.

I asked one of the men to give me the names of all of the men in the crew, so I could refer to them when I wrote this letter to you. They were:

Robert L.Cross, *WDR*
Joe Holman, *Driver*
Andrew Norman, *Helper*
Tim Tatum, *Helper*
Harold Snow, *WDR*
J. Johnson, *EO1*

On behalf of our immediate neighbors, many thanks to the Water Department.

Charles R.
Wissahickon Avenue
Phila.

# Water Department Highlights

The Cooperative Education Association of Pennsylvania (CEAP) has selected the Philadelphia Water Department to receive the "Employer Recognition Award" for our "long-standing participation in Co-op and our contributions to the career development of many college students." The nomination was made by Drexel University.

The Water Department's selection was based on our use of Co-op students as integral to meeting our human resources needs; our pioneer status in Co-op since our 1955 initial Co-op venture; the number of Co-op students hired – about 1300 over the years; and the number of Co-op students hired after graduation – about 20 thus far.

The award was presented at the CEAP annual meeting in Harrisburg on April 27 to Loren Fields and Nancy Dachille of our Personnel Office.

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Mayor W. Wilson Goode joined Philip Sheau, Personnel, President of the Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation (PCDC) in the ground-breaking ceremony for the Gim San Plaza townhouses in Chinatown on July 17. The Gim San Plaza townhouses were built on a parcel of land that had been vacant for 20 years. The PCDC was designated as the developer of this strip of land in 1985.

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Kaye Turnage of Personnel reported that the Water Department led the Fiscal '86 Red Cross Blood Drive with an outstanding donation of 1,306 pints. Bloody well done!

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On May 1, 1987, the Water Department and Metcalf and Eddy presented training certificates to all Northeast employees who attended training sessions during FY '86. Participation in the training program ranged from a few hours for some to close to 100 hours for others. A total of 3700 hours of training was received by the plant staff.

# Volleyball Championship

The Baxter Water Treatment Plant, in a shocking upset, wrenched the Championship trophy from the hands of Southeast Construction (who held the *three year* title before this dark day) in the Championship game on March 26, winning two games to one. Many speculated that Baxter's victory was due to some "unorthodox" training techniques, such as their pre-game basketball warm-up. When questioned about this unusual practice, one Baxter champ replied, "Well, we've always felt more natural and all playing basketball, being from Philly, and besides, we've never mixed the rules up during the game." Southeast was last seen stringing up a net across the Aeration Tanks.

## NEW FATHERS

Lonnie Goldiner, of Industrial Waste, a boy, Corey David, June 14th, 8 lbs.

Bob Thompson, Collector Systems, a boy, Mark Allan, May 7th, 8 lbs., 14 ozs.

Geoffrey Brock, Bureau of Laboratory Services, a boy, Christopher Michael, June 1st.

Joe Morrow, Industrial Waste, a girl, Margaret Mary, July 11, 8 lbs., 6 oz.

Joe Cerrone, Industrial Waste, a girl, Kathleen Loren, July 24, 7 lbs., 9 oz.

## NEWLYWEDS

Sheila Utley of Operations Administration to Jeffrey Collier on May 16th.

Ray DeFelice of Operations Administration to Sharon Greenberg on Sept. 27, 1986.

Lee Tickler of Water Conveyance, to Elaine Juhline on September 19, 1987.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

George Kunkel, Load Control, received his Master's in Civil Engineering from Drexel University in June 1987.

Mark Mills, Aquatic Bio Lab, received his Master's in Biology from Drexel University in June 1987.

Dave Perri, Materials Testing Lab, received the 1987 Philadelphia Young Civil Engineer Award from the Philadelphia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Dave received the award at their annual Spring Banquet.

Norman Weintraub, Chief of Water Conveyance, was named the 1987-88 President of the Philadelphia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

## DEATHS

Franny Leonard died at the end of April, 1987. Franny was an inspector with Construction for the last five years, after spending the previous 30 years as the superintendent for an asphalt company. Franny will be remembered for his easy-going nature and quick, dry wit. Franny was from Crescentville.

PIPELINE
NEWSLETTER

Pipeline is published by the Customer Affairs Division for the employees of the Water Department.

Joanne Dahme . . . . . Editor
Maureen Sullivan . . . . . Co-editor

PIPELINE NEWSLETTER

PHILADELPHIA WATER DEPARTMENT WINTER EDITION 1987

# "OUR LABS AT WORK"

The Water Department's Bureau of Laboratory Services is one of the Department's best kept secrets. The amount of work that is carried out by this division is monumental and the technology employed to do the various types of testing is somewhat amazing. Consider this: you walk across a concrete floor, never questioning that the floor will hold you. You turn on your tap for a glass of water and *expect* it to be safe and refreshing. But who is responsible for guaranteeing this for us? Who is monitoring these standards which insure that the public can expect, without a doubt, to be safe and protected against harmful contaminants and defective materials? The Bureau of Laboratory Services assumes this huge responsibility commendably.

The Bureau, managed by Acting Director Geoffrey Brock, is divided into four major branches, each containing their own units. The major branches include: the Materials Testing Lab, Projects Branch, Water and Wastewater Labs, and the Quality Assurance Branch. The Materials Testing Lab, first established in 1894, is located in the Fairhill Pumping Station at 7th & Lehigh. The station's late nineteenth century appearance belies the state-of-the-art technology within, utilized to conduct a full range of engineering services to divisions of the Water Department and other City departments.

Approximately 80% of the Materials Testing Lab's work is executed for the Water Department. The other 20% is requested by other City Departments, such as Streets and Commerce. A good deal of the work required by the Water Department involved samples and materials from the wastewater expansion program, the sewer loan fund, the Broken Water Main Project, and the Queen Lane Plant improvements. In these areas, the vast amount of testing involves concrete cylinders, testing of water treatment chemicals, soil analysis, and work done on cast iron pipes for the infrastructure rehabilitation project.

*John Donnelly of The Materials Testing Lab conducting a concrete cylinder compression test.*

The Materials Testing Lab is broken into four sections: Administrative, Quality Certification, Physical Testing and Chemical Testing. The Administrative Section, directed by John Durrant, Chief of the MTL, is responsible for the management and coordination of intralaboratory functions. This section determines the correct specifications to be applied and the proper test methods for materials to be tested. A good deal of time is allotted to consultation with Water and other City Departments. This consultation includes advice on specification preparation, acceptance of materials, interpretation of results and explanation of test methods.

Special Projects, under the supervision of Seymour Greenberg, is a unit of the Administration section. Sometimes when a material fails, it meets all the specifications at face value. At this point, Special Projects steps in and evaluates the circumstances at time of failure. Much work is done in corrosion analysis. Presently the lab is performing corrosion stress tests on corroded hat bars from the biological contactors at the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant. The bars were series 400 stainless steel as required, and the corrosion fatigue was unexplainable. Other environmental elements are therefore being investigated. Additional projects of interest tackled by Special Projects include: mattress specifications for Prisons, e.g., durability and non-combustibility, longevity of water meters, permeability of polyethelene pipe, and "the boot" specifications for the Parking Authority.

In September 1983, the Quality Certification Staff was formed to establish quality assurance for construction materials used on Water Department construction projects. The QCS, headed by Dave Perri, is responsible for coordinating the development of a series of standards that define the quality assurance procedures the Department requires from construction material manufacturers. QCS also performs onsite inspections at the manufacturing plant to insure conformance to specifications.

Precast concrete was the first construction material to be examined under the QCS program. Presently, QCS provides inspection services for approved suppliers of Ready-Mixed concrete, gray iron

*(continued on pg.6)*

*Joseph Serbin of BLS conducting a water analysis test at the Baxter Lab.*

## INSIDE

# NEW DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Commissioner William J. Marrazzo recently announced the appointment of Patrick Cairo to the position of Deputy Commissioner, replacing Thomas Walton, who has embarked on a consulting career of his own. Mr. Cairo will be responsible for managing the Operating Division of the Water Department. "Patrick brings considerable knowledge and experience to this position since he has worked over 17 years in the Water Department and recently held the job of General Manager of our Planning and Engineering Division," said Commissioner Marrazzo. He will oversee the Department's largest division, which is responsible for the processing and distributing of water and wastewater services and the management of recycled sludge products through land-based application programs.

In accepting this position, Patrick indicated that his priorities will be to maintain the Water Department's high standard of service to its 525,000 customers and to strengthen the Water Department's ability to effectively meet environmental requirements.

This year, we have placed into operation the last of our three upgraded wastewater treatment plants, and already these multi-million dollar facilities have brought considerable improvements to the quality of our rivers. Patrick indicated that the Water Department will continue to focus its efforts on establishing the regional operating and maintenance procedures to insure that these facilities will achieve their objective.

Patrick's previous experience with the Water Department was as General Manager with administrative responsibilities for the overall engineering aspects of the Department, including the planning, design, construction and start-up of new and renovated treatment facilities, and as manager of technical services provided by the Data Management Center and the Bureau of Laboratory Services.

Patrick received his Bachelor and Master's Degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and is a registered professional engineer in the State of Pennsylvania. He has held numerous elected and appointed positions in national associations for water utilities. He and his wife, Johanna, have two children and live in the Fairmount section of Philadelphia. P

# EXPLORING AN INVESTMENT IN YOUTH

On November 18, 1986, the Water Department kicked off the Exploring Program at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant. Eleven students attended the first meeting. The students showed a keen interest in engineering, and expressed their enthusiasm by registering that night.

Exploring is the young-adult division of the Boy Scouts of America. Explorers are young men and women, aged 14 through 20, who join Explorer posts organized by businesses, industries, churches, schools, government agencies, professional societies, civic clubs, labor unions, sports clubs and other community organizations. Explorer programs match the interests of youth with the adult expertise and program resources of the organization.

The Southwest program was set up by the post committee, and will cover various disciplines of engineering. Meeting nights have been scheduled for the first and third Wednesday of every month, at 7:00 p.m., in the Southwest Conference Room.

Some of the areas of engineering to be covered are:

- What is an engineer?
- Education needed to become an engineer.
- How engineering relates to the Water Department.
- Engineering disciplines.
- Engineering careers and options

Anyone interested in covering one of these subjects for a meeting, please contact Phil Kalnitsky, M.E., (492-4000) at the Southwest Plant.

Sincere thanks must be extended to the members of the committee for their diligent efforts in the forming of this Explorers Post. Many meetings, telephone calls and much correspondence have been exchanged on a volunteer basis, since this concept was introduced to former Deputy Commissioner Thomas Walton in February, 1986.

This Explorers Post is a first for the Water Department. We hope to start another post within the Department, in the near future, and are presently reviewing areas of interest. If you have any ideas or questions, please contact Maureen Sullivan, Customer Affairs at 592-6144 or Mark Wheatcroft, Southwest WPCP at 492-4000. P

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Phil Kalnitsky, *Southwest, Advisor*
Maureen Sullivan, *Customer Affairs, Exploring Coordinator*
Tony Micciolo, *Design, Committee Chairman*

William Wankoff, *Chief, Wastewater Treatment*
Mark Wheatcroft, *Southwest*
Mike St. Clair, *Survey*
Judi-Lynn Palmer, *Sludge Mgmt.*
Andy Bereshnyi, *Southwest Const.*

# SLUDGE BARGE NAMING "NAME THAT BARGE"

The new Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant Compost Facility is slated to begin operation this summer. To move the sludge from our Northeast Plant, the Water Department will be purchasing two sludge barges to make this regular journey up and down the Delaware. These two barges need names and a color. Therefore, the Water Department is depending upon its employees to come up with some suggested names . . . names which are positive, appropriate and creative. This "knack for naming" has been proven before with the great response we received in naming the "Pipeline."

Please send your proposed names and choice of color for our two new barges to Maureen Sullivan, Customer Affairs, 3rd Floor, One Reading Center by April 16th, 1987. P

# "OPEN HOUSE HEADLINERS"

The Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant never looked so good. Tom Lauletta, Superintendent of the Southwest Plant, launched his own "white tornado" (consisting of some dedicated Southwest employees) to make the plaza tiles gleam and the fountains bubble with tumbling water. The Southwest Administration Plaza was transformed into an appropriate showcase of all Water Department divisions at the first Water Department Open House, held on Saturday, October 25, 1986. Despite the lack of sun, the occasion lent its own brightness. In addition to the resourcefulness of the Southwest staff, months of hard work and time were invested by Joan Anne Przybylowicz, of Customer Affairs, and her staff, Eileen McGuire and Barbara Malone, to coordinate and organize various department efforts and exhibits for this monumental event.

The purpose of the Open House was two-fold. The Open House was seen as an opportunity to introduce the public to Water Department operations in order to create a better understanding of our work and goals. Facilities such as the Southwest Plant are very much a part of the community. Therefore, an understanding of our operations and goals are essential for community acceptance. In the same vein, many of our own employees are not familiar with the work of other divisions. Here was the opportunity to see firsthand the type of work each division performs.

Activities and exhibits were concentrated in the plaza of the Administration Building. Units set up their exhibits and displays around the perimeter of the plaza, illustrating their division's specific function and projects. It was certainly apparent that much time and creative effort was devoted to each exhibit. In case you had inadvertently *missed* the Open House, here is a list of participating divisions and their displays.

Tours were also conducted throughout the plant under the able guidance of Southwest employees. Tour sites included primary treatment facilities, oxygen/aeration facilities, effluent pumping station, and sludge thickening facilities. The present compost site was available for touring on request.

*Sewer Maintenance Crew cleaning a sewer at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant.*

Other special activities were conducted throughout the day. Captain Sewer was on hand, distributing balloons and greetings. Mayor W. Wilson Goode, accompanied by Managing Director James S. White and Fire Commissioner William Richmond, joined Commissioner Marrazzo in welcoming all Open House participants. Mayor Goode also accepted the honor of christening the new Watermobile. Later, hotdogs and other refreshments were served to keep the active crowd fueled for the rest of the day.

The success of the Open House must be attributed to the enthusiastic participation of all Water Department divisions. But perhaps the special feeling surrounding the day was the result of the Water Department truly functioning as a unified force. For the first time, most units of the Water Department were at the same location at the same time. The result was a pleasurable and educational experience.

**Plaza Area**

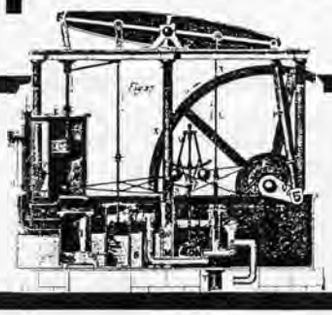
| | |
|---|---|
| Customer Affairs | Water Distribution Model |
| Customer Information | Brochures, flyers, pamphlets |
| Customer Service | Service inspection procedures and equipment |
| Design | Historical infrastructure material and insituform model |
| Drainage Information | History and photographs of infrastructure |
| Industrial Waste | Procedures and equipment display |
| Plant Expansion | Construction progress photos and inspection tools |
| Safety Office | Safety procedures and equipment |
| Inlet Cleaning/ Sewer Maintenance | Maintenance tools, equipment and procedures<br>TV monitor for locating breaks and clogs in sewer lines |
| Water Pollution Control Plants | Employee training procedures |
| Personnel | Employment Opportunities |

**Administration Building**

| | |
|---|---|
| Fairmount Waterworks | Interpretive Center Model |
| Computer Room | |
| Water Department Slide Show | |
| BLS | Slide show, microscopic exams, chemical analysis, materials testing |

**Beyond Plaza**

| | |
|---|---|
| Inlet Cleaning | Demonstration with truck and equipment (cleaning inlet) |
| Sewer Maintenance | Demonstration with Vacuum Truck and equipment (cleaning manhole) |
| Distribution | 36-inch valve, pipe sections, ferrule installation and wet tap demonstration |
| Emergency and Support Services | Hydrant set-up |
| Sludge Management | Compost pile curing demonstration |
| Southwest Shop/ Maintenance | Electrical, mechanical, welding, and instrumentation demonstration |



# WHAT'S PUMPING

## A NORMAL DAY AT THE WATER DEPARTMENT

Friday, October 31, 1986 was a busy day at the 29th and Cambria complex. The Chief of the Water Department (A.H.) was dressed in a wool and silk outfit, sophisticated as usual. She came prepared to attend a birthday celebration being given for her after work.

Her Chief of Surgery (G.F.) was in uniform with a ready to operate appearance, blue surgeon set, coat, stethoscope, glasses. Oh, and of course sneakers. Today she is ready to operate on Cleopatra (E.H.) garbed in all her crowning glory and guarded by her Main Slave (D.R.).

Unknown to the staff is an outside party attended by Bahama Mama (D.K.), two Punk Rockers (M.J. and C.W.). They have with them two witches (S.B. and J.S.). Shortly after the party started, in came a School Gal (A.H.), and a teen (A.M.). They were followed by Mini-Mouse (C.S.), Peter Pan (N.W.), the Head Madame (A.S.) and her ladies, a Flapper (D.W.) and last but not least a Liberated Geisha Girl (S.S.).

After surgery the Chief caught up with her right hand, The Hooker (V.W.). Somehow the Hooker got wind of the party and quickly summoned Robin Hood (R.D.) to make sure they had safe escort to the party before midnight. Robin Hood, of course, was armed with bow and arrows to assure a safe journey.

Needless to say with food and drink ready it was time to PARTY!!!

After all it was *HALLOWEEN NIGHT*!!!!!!!

*Normal day at 29th & Cambria.*

## WATER ON WHEELS

The $H_2O$ Mobile is the Water Department's new mobile educational unit. It visits schools and neighborhoods to provide information and brochures explaining the operation of the Water Department and water conservation services provided.

The mobile has recently received a new paint job and logo, with bright colors splashed into the ballooning figure of $H_2O$ against a light blue background. The vehicle made its debut at Philadelphia's Super Sunday celebration on Sunday, October 19 and was christened by Mayor Wilson Goode at the Southwest Plant's Open House on October 25.

The $H_2O$ Mobile is expected to make a big splash in all Philadelphia neighborhoods and is available for community fairs and events. For more information contact Maureen Sullivan at 592-6144.

## "RESTORATION REPORT"

You have probably heard that the costs of some construction projects have gone "through the roof." But how many of those projects literally "raised the roof?" Such an unusual event took place at our own Fairmount Waterworks Pavilion on October 7th in an effort to remove the existing columns for restoration. The Waterworks Pavilion was built in 1871, entirely of timber construction, supported by hollow, wooden plank-segmented columns.

The Pavilion's columns are in varying stages of decay. Therefore, the roof (which was replaced with metal in the early 20th century) was raised approximately one inch by hydraulically jacking up the scaffolding erected beneath the roof. The columns were then slipped out and are presently being examined for restoration.

Other excitement surrounding the Waterworks restoration concerns the awarding of a consultant service grant from the American Association for State and Local History. The grant will provide the services of a consultant for two days to conduct historical and artifact research.

*"Capt. Sewer emerges from his new headquarters, The Watermobile."*

# "THE POWER OF SUGGESTION"

Commissioner Bill Marrazzo presented the first Employee Suggestion Award to James Downs, Treatment Plant Operator II, at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant, on September 26, 1986. The Employee Suggestion Award is a relatively new program in which employees are encouraged to write down their ideas or suggestions which may modify present operational methods or equipment and thereby produce subsequent reductions in cost or labor. The awards are in the cash amount of 10% of the first year cost savings resulting from implementation of the suggestion. Suggestions may include improvements in such areas as customer service and employee working conditions.


*Commissioner Marrazzo presenting The Employee Suggestion Award to James Downs of The Southwest WPCP in September '86.*

Although this type of suggestion cannot be measured in dollar amounts, awards of merit are presented since improvements in these areas are equally important.

Mr. Downs was awarded $684 for his suggestion to remove clogs from digester heating and circulating pumps through the installation of a wash-out connection in the pump's inspection plate. The connection provided for an easy hook-up to plant water sources to free clogs with plant water pressure.

Recently, two new suggestions have been awarded by the committee to Gerson Korntreger of BLS Projects Section on Ford Road and Joseph Wawrzyniak of Southeast Operations. Mr. Korntreger has been awarded $50 for his "merit" suggestion recommending the regulation of postage stamps for field units through the use of a log. Mr. Wawrzyniak will receive an estimated award of $353 for his suggestion modifying Plant lighting which will save on electrical costs. Mr. Wawrzyniak recommended changing the overhead lighting from incandescent to fluorescent or sodium vapor, installing timers for automatic shut-off and the use of key switches to manually turn lights on and off at various locations.

Now who can say it doesn't pay to think?

# STRIDING FOR SUCCESS

A year ago, Andre Brown, Emergency Support and Services, was deciding whether to become a distance runner. His barber had been trying to convince him for months to join the New Striders West, a local track club, of which the barber was already a member. So he finally gave in and joined the club and soon he was running on Sunday mornings, training with the other members for upcoming runs and marathons. In his first race, a 3.1 mile run, he finished in 26 minutes.

Soon, Andre was training alone, averaging up to 14 miles a day, four times a week. In his second race, the Broad Street Run, in May, 1986, he completed the ten miler in one hour and 22 minutes, finishing 1,500th of 3,200 participants. The next two runs, one for the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation and the other for the American Diabetes Association, were 6.2 mile races which he finished in 46 and 47 minutes. Then it was the Run for Liberty in June, 1986 and he completed the five mile run in 36 minutes, in the top third of the participants. Averaging one run a month, Andre continued training with the club and alone for the runs that benefited local charities. He completed the Philadelphia Distance Run, the Terry Fox Run and then the Philadelphia Independence Marathon on November 23, 1986. This was the most difficult because of the cold


*Andre Brown finishing the Philadelphia Independence Marathon.*

weather, the distance and the many hills included in the race from Center City to Chestnut Hill and finishing at Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park. However, he completed the 26.2 mile run in four hours. His last race for 1986 was for world peace when the New Freedom Striders West participated in the Earth Run on December 10, carrying the torch that had been through several countries and states and on its way to finishing in New York.

In 1987, Andre plans to train harder, to improve his speed for better finishing times. Upcoming runs are scheduled for mid January and February.

# KUDOS TO SAM SULLIVAN AND MARTIN MCCALL OF INLET CLEANING FOR A "JOB WELL DONE"

Thursday, November 13, 1986

Philadelphia Water Department
Commissioner Marrazzo
ARA Towers

Dear Sir:

Today about 10:00 a.m., Truck #797183 and two City employees of the Philadelphia Water Department (truck driver and assistant) cleaned out a sewer located at the corner of Cottage and Levick Streets. I don't remember when this was last done but they did a very good job considering all the sewage that was taken out.

I was amazed at the whole truck load of refuse that was cleaned out. The men were very courteous as I went out to see what the Water Department was going to do, then I went inside and watched as it was too cold outside. They worked steadily the whole time they were there and I must give them and the Water Department credit for a job well done.

Thank you for this service.

A Resident & Taxpayer

castings, gate valves, and welded steel inlet frames and grates.

To date, eleven Ready-Mixed Plants, six precast concrete producers and three foundries are under the watchful eye of QCS. Surveillance methods include unannounced inspections, documentation audits, sampling of test specimens for analysis at the MTL, and in-depth product inspections at the plant. Detailed records of each plant's performance are maintained and inspectors are assigned when negative trends develop. In addition, QCS provides weld inspections and concrete core testing support to the Physical Testing Section.

Joanna McErlean, who is virtually surrounded by broken concrete cylinders, bagfuls of soil, and pieces and sections of broken pipes and pipe clamps, is supervisor of the Physical Testing Section. Joanna seems at home with these items like a museum curator. The Physical Testing Section performs mechanical and physical analysis on such construction materials submitted by City Departments.

Concrete accounts for a large percentage of the Section's work. Tested in the form of cylinders by a newly automized 400,000 pound capacity Tinius Olson Universal Testing Machine, concrete samples are brought in from the field and cured in the lab under controlled humidity and temperature. The cylinders are broken at seven and 28 day intervals to test for adequate strength and aggregate composition. Computerized reports are sent to the various field offices to keep them informed of the concrete's progress.

Soil analysis is performed routinely. Sieves are used for particle size distribution, and maximum density and optimum moisture provide valuable information concerning strength of soil foundations. Metal products are tested for hardness, tensile strength, yield strength and elongation.

The Physical Testing Section has been instrumental in the Water Department's broken water main study. Tests are conducted which emphasize breaks relating to age of pipe, graphite corrosion, surrounding soil and depth of soil cover. Visual inspections, in conjunction with mechanical testing, have proven to be a valuable method of piecing together relative causes of pipe breaks.

The Chemical Testing Section is headed by Sheldon Issac, who supervises a diversified group of chemists. Water Department requests are numerous and varied. The greatest number of samples concern chemicals for water treatment, e.g., granular activated carbon. Other department submittals include sand for pipe bedding, concrete and mortar components, caulks and packing, broken water mains and surrounding soil, metals from pollution control equipment and glycol from heating lines.

Other departments such as Procurement, send samples of detergents, floor care products, mops and brooms, clothing and fabrics, carpeting and solder. The Commerce Department routinely requests the testing of water which runs off the concrete and asphalt runways at the Airport to check pH and oil content. The Streets Department needs rock salt tested for sodium chloride content and gradation.

The Chemical Section also has become involved with the testing of sludge, grit and compost from the wastewater treatment plants. Tests are conducted for organic matter, corrosivity and ignitability.

Most recently, the Chemical Section has become involved with the testing for lead content in the City's drinking water. Customers' services are checked for sources of lead contamination, e.g., brass fittings, lead solder joints and old lead pipes.

These four sections have together contributed to make the Materials Testing Lab a valuable source for insuring that the City's building and procurement programs are assured quality materials. Lab director John Durrant was proud to point out that the Lab has become almost completely digitized, enabling test results to be more readily available and applicable to specification standards.

Because the Safe Drinking Water Act has been revised to be more stringent than ever, the Water & Wastewater laboratories, located at the Baxter and Belmont plants respectively, have stepped up their water vigilance. To be charged with the responsibility of insuring that the water delivered to our customers is safe is no easy task. Water & Wastewater laboratory Chief James Coyle has under his supervision a variety of laboratory specialists, each fulfilling a different function in assuring water quality.

Philadelphia obtains its drinking water from the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. This water is treated and distributed by our three treatment plants: Baxter, Belmont and Queen Lane. In order to thoroughly understand our water quality and its needs, our water is monitored and tested at the river, during various plant processes and at plant water effluent points to verify the high quality of the water entering the distribution system.

Our drinking water is distributed to the public through 3,200 miles of transmission mains and six major storage facilities. BLS collects samples from *85* locations *every day* throughout the City and analyzes the water for bacteria, physical and sensory properties, inorganics, organics, radionuclides and trace metals. These samples should represent water as it appears at the customers' tap. Water & Wastewater Labs are broken down into specific sections which test for a variety of elements. Water is broken down into an Organics Section, supervised by James Santo; Water Analysis Section, supervised by Walter Malik; Aquatic Biology Section, supervised by Jean Ballestero; and the Quality Assurance Branch, headed by Eugene Gasiewski. Wastewater testing is performed largely at Belmont and at the wastewater treatment plants themselves, although some wastewater testing does take place at Baxter. Simulated chlorination is tested at Baxter to determine the optimum quantity of chlorine to be used at wastewater plant effluent points in order to deliver a "safe" effluent to the rivers. Rich Grochowski supervises wastewater testing at Belmont.

The Distribution System Water Quality Project, which includes the sampling of distribution points throughout the City, has a number of other programs which focus on determining the extent and causes of bacteria in our treated water system. A number of points have proven to be a problem in the maintenance of water quality.

Deadend mains are a site for water quality deterioration. Water here exhibits a high turbidity and bacteria may increase during hot summer temperatures due to negligible chloramine residuals. Older mains may deteriorate contaminating water quality.

Storage tanks exhibit changes in water quality if chloramine residuals die off, allowing bacteria counts to increase. Tastes and odors are a problem in the fall, at times when changing temperatures can cause a "turnover" effect, in which cooler denser water settles to the bottom, pushing up the warmer water and sediments which may have accumulated. Seasonal tank drainage has proven to alleviate this problem.

If there are two characteristics of our water that the customer notices most, they are taste and odor. Safe water should certainly taste and smell good, and for

this reason the BLS has vastly improved our analytical ability to correlate the reasons for various tastes in water.

The BLS's Taste and Odor panel utilizes some of the aspects of the Flavor Profile Method used for food testing to distinguish primary tastes. The panel is instructed through a training program to calibrate their senses to an objective intensity scale and to recognize different tastes and odor descriptions by referencing various chemicals and natural elements. Salty, bitter, sweet and sour are the four main categories used to distinguish flavors. Quality assurance is maintained by the inclusion of blanks and duplicates during testing, by keeping sample identities unknown to the panel, and by limiting the number of samples to prevent sensory exhaustion through interlaboratory testing.

Taste and odor descriptions and intensities are compared routinely with instrumental analysis results to relate and identify organic contaminants. Sampling is done at the three treatment plant effluents and their intakes, as well as through customer complaint samples and samples from the rivers, reservoirs, storage tanks and distribution system.

Microscopic examinations are performed on plant and river samples for algae and protozoa. Analytical methodology studies are conducted utilizing the Presence/Absence technique as a tool for determining bacteriological quality of water at various stages of the treatment process. This testing method is used for the detection of coliform bacteria. The Standard Plate Count (SPC) methodology is also used as a guide in detecting bacteria.

Major programs undertaken by BLS include the Cross Connection Program supervised in conjunction with L & I and the Health Department. The Water Department maintains a general containment policy to insure that our potable water supply is not contaminated by connecting lines. Appropriate backflow preventers are specified at the meter for the containment of any backflow problem within the customer's residence. The reduction of trihalomethanes (THMs) are high priority at BLS with the anticipated revisions to the Safe Drinking Water Act. THMs are produced by the chlorination of water. The Water Treatment Section, in conjunction with the BLS, have been modifying treatment processes in order to reduce THMs by decreasing pH, reducing chlorine contact time and using alternate disinfectants such as chlorine dioxide.

The sanitary condition of new relays and repaired water mains are determined by BLS. Samples are collected and analyzed for chlorine residual, pH, color and turbidity, and must meet Water Department standards before they can be placed into service. Other problems within the water distribution system involve the corrosion of elements in a plumbing system such as old lead pipes and solders. Lead has been found to occur in systems when water stands for a period of time in new plumbing with lead soldered joints. The reduction of lead content in our drinking water is a major goal, again under the provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

This article concentrates on only the water aspects of the BLS. Wastewater studies are another dimension undertaken by our Wastewater Laboratories and sections at the BLS. Our next issue will address these important sections in conjunction with our Industrial Waste Division.

## SOUTHWEST WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Every year the employees of the Maintenance and Operation Units at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant select an outstanding employee of the year.

This year three exceptional employees were chosen. Congratulations to Lloyd Walls, Machinist; Robert Hertens, Electrician; and Harry Carter, Sub-Labor Crew Chief.

Reserved parking spaces at the plant, $H_2O$ mobile mugs, hats and calendars are just a few of the prizes the awardees received.

## 1986 RETIREES

| NAME | UNIT | DATE |
|---|---|---|
| Mario G. Celoni | Design Branch | 5/26/86 |
| Greta M. Ellis | Design Branch | 3/24/86 |
| Raymond Finkelstein | Design Branch | 1/6/86 |
| William Raschiatore | Construction | 4/1/86 |
| Lawrence J. Pineiro | Survey | 1/7/86 |
| Joseph H. Stellabotte | Design | 1/13/86 |
| Albert DeRentz | Construction | 9/3/86 |
| Floyd H. Platton | Personnel | 4/27/86 |
| Joseph A. Duffy | Finance | 3/24/86 |
| Theodore Baruch | BLS | 4/7/86 |
| Edward Shervin | Water Treatment Hdqt. | 3/25/86 |
| John Saunders | Belmont Filters | 6/3/86 |
| Herbert Heller | Belmont Filters | 5/15/86 |
| Wilbert H. Travis | Water Conveyance Hdqt. | 4/2/86 |
| Darrell S. Stratford | Distribution | 9/29/86 |
| Carnell Bishop | Distribution | 8/4/86 |
| Oliver Baldwin | Distribution | 6/20/86 |
| Isadore J. King | Distribution | 2/12/86 |
| Donato Caruso | Distribution | 1/27/86 |
| Earley Reaves | Emergency Supt. Svcs. | 12/8/86 |
| Peter J. McGuire | Emergency Supt. Svcs. | 8/4/86 |
| Leroy C. Millard | Emergency Supt. Svcs. | 6/11/86 |
| Clarence Driggins | Emergency Supt. Svcs. | 3/23/86 |
| Willie Morman | Emergency Supt. Svcs. | 2/28/86 |
| Jesse J. Mathis | Emergency Supt. Svcs. | 1/25/86 |
| Joseph J. Sellers | Emergency Supt. Svcs. | 1/20/86 |
| Darnell G. Lewis | Pumping | 8/29/86 |
| Robert Lignelli | Logan Garage | 2/3/86 |
| Percy Johnson | Bldg. Maint. | 8/12/86 |
| Vincent S. Stockmal | Plant Maint. | 8/7/86 |
| Robert C. Harris, Jr. | Central Stores | 5/1/86 |
| James Briscoe | Northeast Plant | 12/13/86 |
| Joseph Gosselin | Northeast Plant | 12/7/86 |
| Henry Jackowicz | Northeast Plant | 11/13/86 |
| Walter Taylor | Northeast Plant | 4/7/86 |
| Hayward Washington | Northeast Plant | 2/5/86 |
| Samuel D. Gray | Northeast Plant | 2/1/86 |
| Willie Jones | S.W. Plant | 7/10/86 |
| David C. Garr | S.W. Plant | 5/21/86 |
| Frederick Hicks | S.E. Plant | 11/20/86 |
| Leon S. Skitek | Water Treatment Hdqt. | 9/15/86 |
| James J. Duffy | Wastewater Treatment Hdqt. | 3/19/86 |
| Cyrus Gordon | Sewer Maint. | 6/5/86 |
| Samuel Elliott | Sewer Maint. | 6/2/86 |
| Archie Clark | Sewer Maint. | 3/5/86 |
| John Boerner | Sewer Maint. | 3/3/86 |
| Phillip Poindexter | Inlet Cleaning | 8/7/86 |
| Luther Fairley | Interceptors | 9/29/86 |
| Sam Francis | Interceptors | 6/9/86 |
| James Roberts | Interceptors | 2/4/86 |
| John Albertson | Bldg. Maint. | 3/20/86 |
| John Goodwin | S.W. Plant | 4/8/86 |
| Norman Reed | Inlet Cleaning | 4/3/86 |
| Clarence Cohen | Sludge Mgmt. | 1/6/86 |

## PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Thomas Varughese, Design, became a United States citizen on July 9, 1986.

Three departmental engineers received Masters in Civil Engineering degrees from Drexel University on June 7, 1986. Congratulations to Jerry Kuziw, SEWPCP, Ray Staniec, Collector System and James Hampson, Construction.

## PIPELINE EDITORIAL BOARD

The Pipeline Staff is working to form an Editorial Board. If you are interested or have some ideas or opinions concerning the newsletter's content, feature articles or the direction the newsletter should take in future issues, please contact Maureen Sullivan at 592-6144 as soon as possible. Unit reporters are also a valuable tool for collecting news throughout the Department. Anyone interested in regularly reporting for your Unit should contact Maureen.

## NEW MANAGER

Mr. Faulkner Edmonds has accepted the position of Manager of the Wastewater Collector System, succeeding Bob Serpente, who left the Water Department on December 12th to join an engineering consulting firm. Faulkner has been with the Water Department for 24 years, working in both the Operation and Engineering Divisions. He started his career in the Survey Unit and has worked in Drainage Information, Collector Systems and the Construction Branch. He most recently served as Chief of the Survey Unit.

## COMPLETE FINANCIAL SECURITY NOW AVAILABLE

The Deferred Compensation Plan has recently taken a step toward offering complete financial security. On January 13 of this year, it began to offer a death benefit option. City employees will now be able to direct up to 25% of their total deferral towards the purchase of life insurance.

It is available through the convenience of payroll deduction. Up to three (3) times your salary is available using a simplified issue process with only eight (8) medical questions. Cash value will be credited at 9% for one (1) year. This rate currently exceeds the rate of return on most other investments, such as C.D.'s and money market funds.

Unlike traditional group premiums, including the new flex plan, these premiums remain level. The premium remains level at separation of service or retirement, if you wish to keep the policy. Deferred Compensation is the only way the life insurance can be purchased with before-tax dollars.

Additional information can be obtained from representative, Steve Bialon, at (215) 557-7840.

## WEDDINGS

John Gallagher, NEWPCP, on December 31, 1985.

Kathy Flicker, Design to Cliff Sipes on May 17, 1986.

Mike Cunningham, Design, to Claudia Becker on June 27, 1986.

Kennedy Wilson, Design, to Millie Harris on July 5, 1986.

Steve Furtek, Design, to Andrea Friel on October 11, 1986.

Kate Ellis, Sludge Management, to Daniel Guest on August 30, 1986.

Ouida Ferron, Data Management and Frank Hembry, Plant Maintenance on July 12, 1986.

## BIRTHS

Tyrone Maillard, Design, a baby girl, Netyah, on July 10, 1986.

Douglas McCoy, Inlet Cleaning, twin baby boys, Darnell and Daniel, on August 23, 1986.

Art Fagerstrom, NEWPC, a baby boy, Stephen Lee, on September 20, 1986.

Steve Ballay, Data Management, a baby boy, Stephen Michael, on October 16, 1986.

Lou Francesco, Design, a baby boy, Nicholas, on October 1, 1986.

Robert Lendzinski, SWWPCP, a baby girl, Julia Lynn, on November 6, 1986.

Paul Kopicki, WPAP, a baby boy, Justin, on November 15, 1986.

Frank Kirchoff, Baxter Plant, a baby girl, on October 17, 1986.

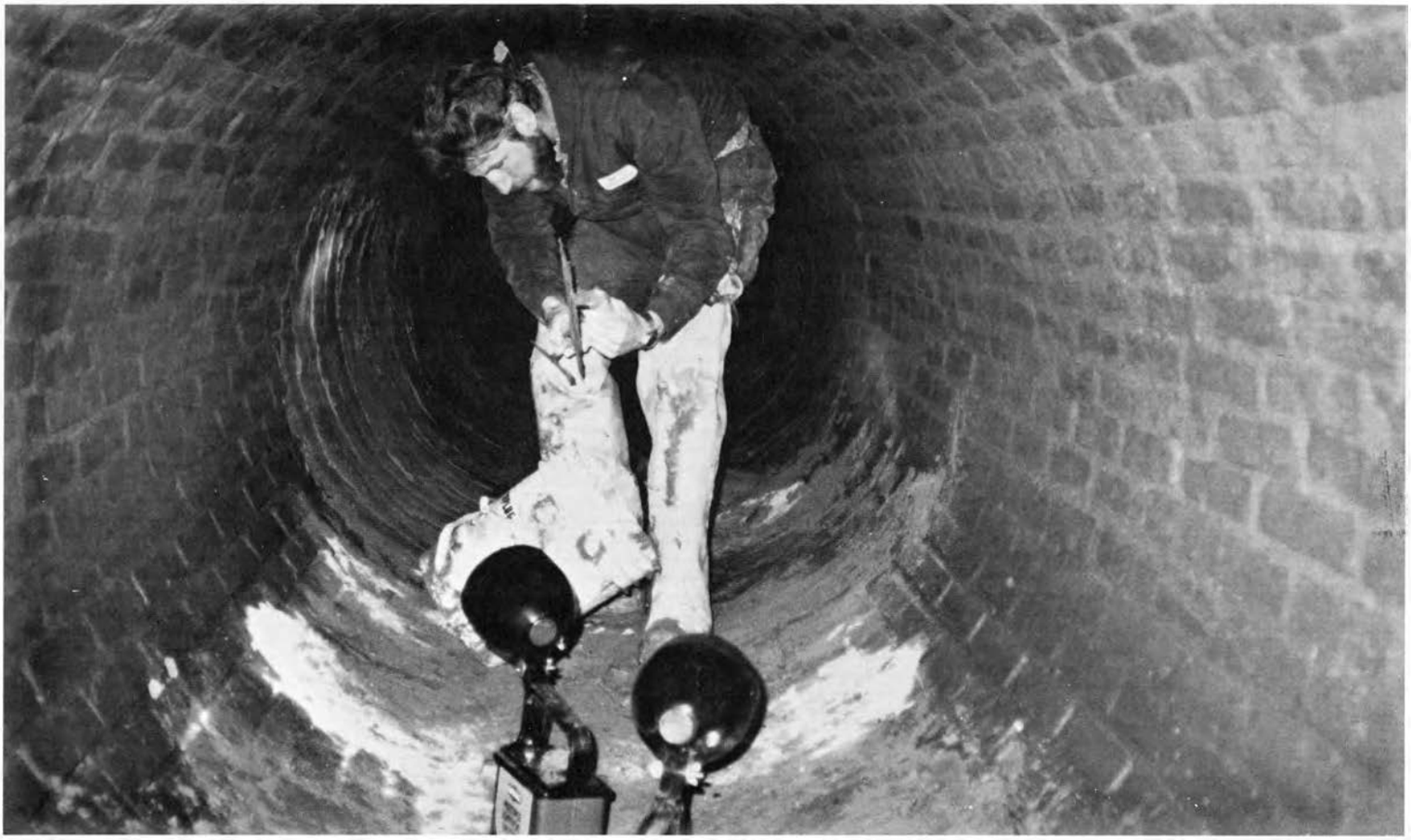
PIPELINE NEWSLETTER

Pipeline is published by the Customer Affairs Division for the employees of the Water Department.

Maureen Sullivan ..... Editor
Joanne Dahme ..... Staff Writer

# PIPELINE

*Philadelphia Water Department Newsletter* *Spring Edition 1988*



*Bill Laver, SM brick mason, is repairing the invert of the brick-lined sewer with a watertight mortar mix.*

# The Work "Down Under"

When visitors enter the magic kingdom of Disneyworld, they are immediately delighted by the pervasive sense of peace and the aura of fairy tale beauty. The beauty is unique because it is constant, fragile yet untouched by the daily interaction between man and nature.

What the visitor never sees is the vast underground network of operations which protects the beauty above it. All of the functions of this Oz like city are processed beneath its cobbled stone streets. Trash collection, electrical power, water and sewage systems, security, food delivery – all of these operations are invisible – sheltering the public eye – anchoring the beauty like the strong roots of a gentle tree.

Although Philadelphia can hardly be compared to Disneyworld, our own complex sewage collection system also works invisibly beneath the feet of its citizens. To the undiscerning eye, wastewater flushed from toilets, sinks, washers... simply disappears miraculously down the drain. Stormwater rushing furiously along street curbs dives into corner inlets, entering a component of the Water Department's vast 3000 mile network of stormwater, sanitary, combined or interceptor lines which carry the wastewater to the Northeast, Southeast or Southwest water pollution control plants.

The goal of Philadelphia's Waste and Stormwater Collection Division has evolved into a mandate to protect our rivers and environment, a far cry from the early 19th century

*(continued on page 2)*

## INSIDE PIPELINE

## The Work "Down Under"

*(continued from page 1)*

sewers which simply drained sewage wastes into the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers. As a result of this century old practice, by the 1940's, the quality of both rivers was at their lowest, the pollutants from human wastes and factories effectively killing off fishlife, spoiling the watershed's natural beauty and dangerously contaminating the city's drinking water sources.

With the construction of our primary treatment plants in the 1940's and 50's, the City began "separating" its sanitary and stormwater lines, the new exclusively sanitary lines delivering its flows directly to the treatment plants along with the old "combined" lines, and the exclusively stormwater lines emptying rain runoff into streams and rivers. To prevent the over taxed combined sewers from emptying into waterways, Philadelphia built special conduits to "intercept" this wastewater and divert it to our treatment plants. Presently, approximately 150 miles of interceptors snake along the banks of our rivers and streams, linking old combined sewers to the plants. Only during heavy storms are these interceptors forced to allow flows which it cannot handle into the rivers. This too will change in the near future.

The Waste and Stormwater Collection Division consists of five units: Sewer Maintenance, Inlet Cleaning, Interceptors, Collection System Support and Administration. Faulkner Edmonds, Chief of Waste and Stormwater Collection, summed up the attitude of his Division. "The Collector System is a team. Each unit has a job to keep the Department going. These functions integrate at their perspective levels."

The Sewer Maintenance Unit is one which is known to "dig to new heights." The Unit's job is to keep the 3,000 miles of sewers operating efficiently for the two million people which the system services. Daily maintenance includes flushing the sewers with high pressure hoses if there's a blockage, or clearing the sewer with a mechanical bucket that scrapes up debris as it is pulled back and forth. Smaller sewers are "rodded" with a power rodder similar to a "Roto-Rooter" machine. Sewer examinations necessary for locating leaks or blockages are made by crews who actually *walk* through the sewers. Smaller diameter sewers are examined by TV, in which a camera is pulled through the sewer on a slide, transmitting the picture to a screen in the TV truck above. Broken or leaking sewers require repairs or replacement, necessitating excavation and sheeting and shoring. The repairs made by Sewer Maintenance extend to manholes, inlets, laterals and drainage right-of-ways.

*Sewer Maintenance successfully dried out the damaged section of the combined sewer by sandbagging and pumping. Pumping is continued while concrete patching material is mixed.*

The 198 employees in Sewer Maintenance operate from three locations and serve their corresponding districts: the Fox Street headquarters serves the Northwest, North and Center City areas, the West Philadelphia Yard covers West and South Philadelphia and the Lardner's Point Yard serves the Northeast. And because there are so many drainage right-of-ways in the Northeast (streams and natural drainage routes), the Lardner's Point crew takes care of all right-of-ways throughout the City because of their expertise.

In addition to the regular service which Sewer Maintenance provides for our City every day, it has recently completed some jobs for which the Unit takes special pride. Richard Goode, Assistant Superintendent, was eager to describe some of these feats. One recent job involved an excavation crew which had to dig over 20 feet to reach a damaged sewer pipe. This type of excavation is difficult and time-consuming, requiring extensive sheeting and shoring to protect the repair crews and to prevent a cave-in. Normally this type of work is contracted out. But then, Sewer Maintenance has never been known to reject a challenge.

*(continued on page 7)*

*Reaching the sewer meant clearing a roadway down the steep hills of Wissahickon Park by Livezey Lane.*

# "Barging In"

Pull out the champagne and begin the celebration. The Department's twin sludge barges are under construction and have already been christened. The U.S. Coast Guard has officially acknowledged the "Recycler" and the "Resource" before they have even touched the water.

The twin barges will be completed in mid-December, 1988, by the Nashville Bridge Company in Nashville, Tennessee. The barges will carry one million gallons of liquid sludge from the loading terminal at the Northeast Plant on the Delaware River to a dewatering facility next to the Southwest Plant. Over a 20-year period, barging will save the Department about $8 million as opposed to trucking.

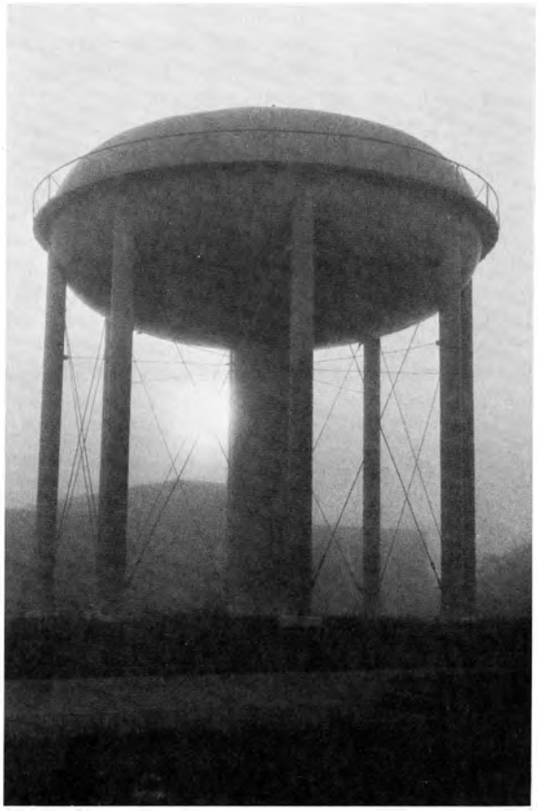
Besides saving money, the barges will provide greater operational flexibility and reduce manpower requirements for operations and maintenance. Concerns such as odor, noise, dust, highway traffic and road wear associated with trucking sludge will be eliminated.

The twin barges are made of steel and will be 250 feet long, 50 feet wide and 20 feet deep. Above the water line the barges will be Ocean Blue in color with homeport, draftmark and official registration in yellow. The barges also feature an ice breaking design and a double-hull construction as a safety net to prevent spillage.

Once the "Recycler" and the "Resource" are completed, the twins will certainly attest to the success of Sludge Management's sludge handling program. As they plow with pride through the waters of the Delaware and Schuylkill, the "Recycler" and the "Resource" will be nothing to sniff at, despite their cargo.

*1987 Water Department Picnic*

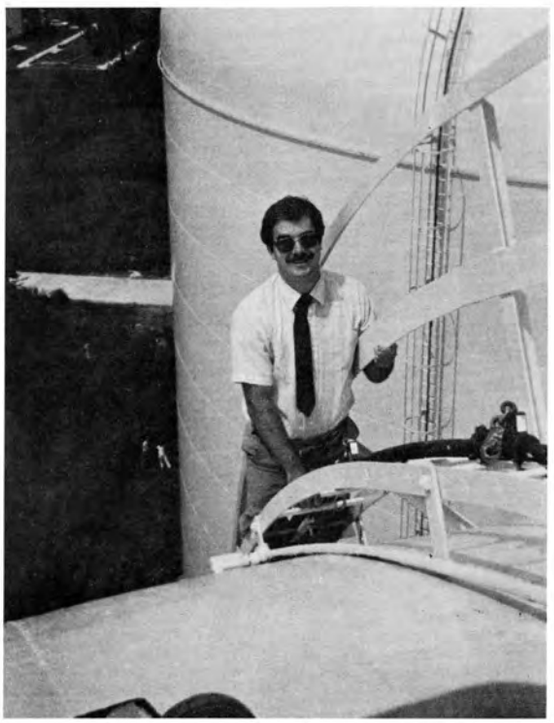
# Photo Finishes



*"Wash Water Tank"* Hyland Butcher

*"Wonder Worker"* Mae E. Robinson

The winning photographs in the Department's Photo Contest were submitted by Mae E. Robinson of Inlet Cleaning for the "People" category and Hyland Butcher of the Baxter Water Treatment Plant for his beautiful "Facility" shot. Runners up in both categories were submitted by Gary Burlingame of BLS.



*"Staying on Top of Things"* Gary Burlingame

*"Thanks for a Nice View"* Gary Burlingame


*Volunteers Tom Duncavage and Bill Kavash spreading the word about composting.*

# Spring Fever

The Water Department's exhibit in the 1988 Flower Show entitled, "Compost: The Way the World – And Your Garden – Recycles," won the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Award of Merit for "An Outstanding Exhibit in the Show." The exhibit featured our composted sludge products, Earthlife and Phillymulch, and illustrated how they can be used as organic soil conditioners. Ah, the smell of success.

# *The Miracle of Sludge*

*by Nancy Callahan*

Last May, the maintenance crew at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant (SWWPCP) decided to do something about "The Graveyard," a remnant of a garden located at the entrance to the Administration Building of the SWWPCP. "The Graveyard" tag was a bit morbid, but none the less accurate. A contorted pine tree wept over a tombstone-like slab of granite. The only other vegetation which barely survived in the garden plot was a few sparse ground junipers, some hedge, and weeds – lots of weeds. This sight soon changed, however, under the prompting of Jim Downs, Treatment Plant Operator II, who had recently been delegated the responsibility of grounds maintenance. Jim contacted the Sludge Management Unit's Agronomist staff for suggestions. The suggestion was obvious – USE SLUDGE! IT WILL GROW GREAT PLANTS! And thus the resurrection.

The 13′ x 70′ graveyard plot was first rototilled to destroy the weeds. Damaged shrubs and junipers were pulled out of the ground. A front end loader then delivered a bucket of screened compost, one of several sludge products produced at the SW plant. The compost was spread and rototilled into the topsoil.

The soil instantly came to life. Hard red clay, which had previously limited plant growth, was mixed with nutrient rich organic sludge, immediately showing promise as good top soil.

*The graveyard crew*

A very enthusiastic and energetic team then started to landscape the area. Dave Holland, Jack Berg, Jim Pines, Leroy Harrison (all MEO's), Harry Carter, Lantz Giles, Bernard Tawlings, Marcus Fountain, McLarry Humphrey, Jeff Demby, Ghagathian Elo, Kevin O'Rourke and Nancy Callahan all worked together on the project.

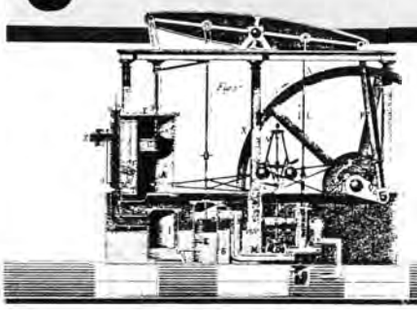
Pennsylvania's state tree, the hemlock, was planted along the back wall, and new junipers were placed in existing beds. Euonymous shrubs, also known as "Burning Bush" for their brilliant red fall foliage, were planted along the edges. Chrysanthemum, Dusty Millers, Ornamental Kale, and Potentill were planted around the granite slab to reincarnate the stone into a flourishing display of texture and color. Under the guidance of McLarry Humphrey, Plant Helper and an experienced carpet layer, fresh green sod was meticulously placed in the area. Suddenly, a green aura illuminated from the entrance. The graveyard was but a memory.

And the momentum did not stop here. Six raised concrete flower boxes located around the central fountain court were the next targets. Screened compost was brought in large trash cans and turned under with hand shovels. Chrysanthemums, Marigolds, Dusty Miller, Shasta Daisies, and Pachysandra were planted and prospered. By late spring, beautiful flowers of yellow, white and silver accented the fountain. The color lasted until after the autumn frost.

Jim Downs did not anticipate the full impact of the project at the start. Today, there are no more cynical graveyard jokes. Visitors to the SW plant are greeted by a well-kept, attractive display of ornamental plants which reflect the staff's professionalism. The well maintained landscape is a symbol of the pride and dedication which is prevalent in the Department's personnel. The landscape crew at the plant are excellent examples of this pride. Their work is applauded and appreciated by all associated with the plant.

This spring includes plans to renovate other areas of the SW Plant. The plan includes the use of sludge products. Sludge will be used for preparing annual and perennial flower beds, rejuvenating turf grass, planting trees and shrubs, and mulching to keep weeds down.

Other department facilities are encouraged to follow this example. Suggestions, consultations, and assistance are available to all facilities who would like to start even the smallest landscaping project. Call the Sludge Management Unit Agronomic staff at 592-6246.



# WHAT'S PUMPING

*This oversized check for one year of free cable was presented to Bob Edmonds and his wife, the first customers of Wade Cablevision.*

## It's Showtime

Bob Edmonds of Finance found himself to be the lucky first customer of Wade Cablevision, the only minority-owned cable company in Philadelphia. On December 15th, at 1:30 p.m., Bob kindly invited Mayor Wilson Goode, Councilman Lucien Blackwell, James N. Wade, Chairman of Wade Cablevision, and other representatives from Wade Cablevision and the media into his home in West Philadelphia for the official "turn-on" ceremony. As a gesture of thanks to Bob for offering his home for this grand occasion, Wade awarded Bob with a free 25-inch color television and a year's free subscription to over 65 cable channels, including Family Entertainment, Sports, Music, Movies, News and Information, Home Shopping, Community Affairs and Religious programming.

In the future, Bob wishes to be addressed as Bob "It's Showtime" Edmonds. So, if you want to catch a basketball game, just go to Bob's.

## Money Making Ideas

The Employee Suggestion Committee recently adopted three ideas that will help the Department save money and improve operations. Department employees who created the ideas received cash awards.

Joseph M. Farrell of the Baxter Water Treatment Plant was awarded $80.00 for his idea of installing street gratings and $50.00 for his suggestion to install low voltage floodlights that would illuminate the gardens at the Baxter Water Treatment Plant.

Third money making idea came from Curtis King of Sewer Maintenance who received $90.00 for his suggestion to drill holes into shovels used in muddy areas. Curtis was quite surprised when his idea was accepted and put into use. He said, "The Employee Suggestion Program helps expand your knowledge by helping others. It feels good to say, look that's my invention."

If you have any money making ideas, call 592-6169 for more information or write to: Employee Suggestion Program, ARA Tower, 5th Floor.

## Agronomy Unit Grows

This past September the Department acquired a new member in its Sludge Management Unit. Damali Mason was brought on board as a new agronomist, joining the present team of Ken Sarkis and Nancy Callahan.

Damali's career background is quite interesting, if not unique. Born and raised in Philadelphia, she first became interested in agriculture in high school, after viewing a film about starving people in an underdeveloped country in Africa. She was so moved by the film that Damali decided that she would learn to feed the world. Damali enrolled in the Delaware Valley College of Science and Agriculture to gain knowledge and experience in her chosen field of study – Agronomy. As commencement neared, she tried to enlist in the Peace Corps to make her dream a reality; but this venture was to no avail. The Peace Corps rejected her application because she was a single parent of two young children who were not allowed to accompany her on her two year mission. Needless to say, Damali was very disappointed. But, after graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agronomy, Damali decided to use the knowledge and skills that she acquired in school and part-time employment to protect the environment where she lives. Damali was hired by the United States Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service, where she was employed for the past eight years.

Besides the science of agriculture, Damali's other interests include traveling to foreign countries and theatre. She is presently starring in a

local Dinner-Theatre musical revue of "Guys and Dolls" and appears in various television commercials and industrial films.

Presently involved in overseeing compost application projects in New Jersey, Damali feels that the Water Department adds a new dimension to her very promising and exciting career as an agronomist.

Sludge Management is delighted to have such a diversified employee on their team.

Damali, Welcome Aboard!!

# Employee of the Year

After being chosen as the "City Employee of the Month" in April '87, Water Department Scientific Application System Analyst, Mike Pence, soon topped that honor by being awarded "Employee of the Year," on October 21st, among 35 other city nominees.

Mike was chosen from this elite group because of his substantial contributions to the success of the Department and to the vitality of the community, despite physical handicaps. Mike received a $2,000 cash prize, a William Penn desk set and a complimentary weekend at the Adams Mark Hotel.

Mike provides systems analysis and mathematical support to the engineering divisions of the Water Department, while lending his expertise to other City departments such as the Fire Department and the Managing Director's Office. Mike holds a master's degree in math and is presently pursuing a degree in chemistry at Drexel.

Besides his professional accomplishments, Mike counsels handicapped students at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital, providing data processing training to disabled adults as well. The program has placed many of its graduates into competitive computer related careers. More recently, Mike has become involved with the Philadelphia YMCA's Chapter II reading program, volunteering two nights a week to help non-reading adults improve their skills.

Even cynical Inquirer columnist Steve Lopez had a tough time finding fault with Mike. Lopez, who is infamous for his caricaturing of city officials and employees, attended Mike's party given by his fellow Research and Planning buddies, and was surprised but pleased to find that Mike was everything that he was cranked up to be. Mike's attitude towards his physical handicap seems to be – what handicap? This attitude has enhanced his remarkable prowess in treating the rest of humanity with sincere kindness and concern. Such selflessness is surely a rare attribute.

## The Work "Down Under"

*(continued from page 2)*

Another "great" in Sewer Maintenance history occurred when Norman Lofton, Crew Chief Sewer Inspector, George Palmer and Walter Lacken, both Sewer Inspectors, broke a Department record in their examination of the Dobson's Run storm sewer. The sewer, which is 6,000 feet long, extending from Wissahickon Drive to Kelly Drive, was the longest length of sewer to be "walked" at one time. And it took them a record time of two hours and 30 minutes to inspect it, despite complications such as having to bend over for more than 1,600 feet when in parts the sewer decreased to four or five feet in diameter. Also, the team had to "straddle" walk a couple of hundred feet in places where the invert or bottom of the sewer had been washed out. "Although these type of stories don't make headlines," Goode said, "the guys take great pride in their work. The public is not aware of the work we do. Only when their water is cut off or when their toilets back up," he laughed, "only *then* do they think about us and give us a call."

What is the job like for people who work for Sewer Maintenance? To answer and check complaints, crews must enter sewers and manholes that are considered "confined" spaces and could be dangerous if the proper precautions are not taken. Safety training is highly emphasized. The crews use gas detectors to check for dangerous gases that may be escaping the sewer. Once they are sure that the atmosphere is safe to enter, they are harnessed up in a body boot, jacket, gloves, helmet and attached to a rope to be held by the crew above, not unlike an astronaut to his capsule. They walk the sewer with a high beam light to search the interior of the sewer for cracks or leaks. And there is always a voice contact who serves as an emergency back-up person with an oxygen tank and equipment for rescue.

Sewer Maintenance also has a night crew which responds to emergencies and finishes jobs that the day crew did not complete. In addition to these crews, the rodent control division, which also works in conjunction with the Health Department, helps to eliminate rats from the drainage system by pinpointing the locations where rats enter or exit the sewers, and then attacks them accordingly.

The Pipeline's next issue will feature the remaining units of the Waste and Stormwater Collection Division.

# Letters From our Customers

Dear Councilman O'Neil:

My wife and I wish to thank you and John J. Craney, Chief of Customer Service in the Philadelphia Water Department, for your assistance in regards to the recent sewage back-up we and our neighbors experienced in our homes on Endicott St.

Mr. Craney expressed his concern for our problem by visiting our home after business hours. In addition, he telephoned twice a week to inquire about the status of the back-up. We requested that a steel sewage cover be placed over the manhole in the vicinity and Mr. Craney saw to it that this was accomplished.

We appreciate your cooperation and commend Mr. Craney for the competent services rendered by the Philadelphia Water Department.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. H.
Endicott St.
Philadelphia

# Water Department Highlights

## Annual Safety Luncheon

The annual Safety Incentives awards luncheon will be held on June 10 in the 5th floor Conference Room of ARA Tower. Incentive prizes will be drawn at random for employees chosen from the no lost-time injuries or preventable vehicle accidents list for '86 and '87. Candidates for the prizes will receive certificates some time in May, stating the nature of the safety accomplishment. Those attending the luncheon will have been selected at random from the eligible list of 34 higher risk units. These candidates will join the Commissioner and the Safety Office staff for a deli lunch and the savings bond drawing. As is the custom, in addition to the savings bonds (top prize $1,000), an additional 150 smaller prizes (compact flashlights) will be won by Department employees who qualify.

Starting in November, asbestos was removed from the Northeast Plant. Employees were informed of the methods of removal and the safety precautions which were strictly enforced. The job was completed by the middle of December.

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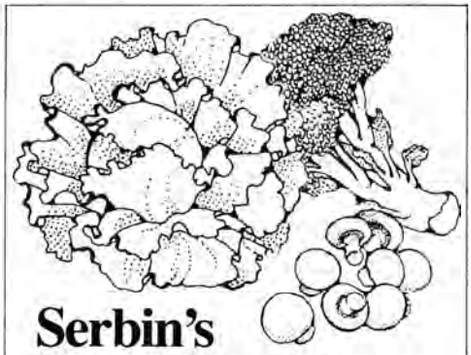
The Water Department's training consultant, Metcalf and Eddy, began a Computer Based Interactive Video Odor Control Training on December 14, 1987 for employees at the Northeast, Southwest and Southeast Water Pollution Control Plants. Through the use of computers, engineers and supervisors learn how to use the new process equipment. The training is also a test program for Metcalf and Eddy software.



## Serbin's Salad Service

In light of the recent emphasis on health foods and dieting, Brian Serbin, BLS, has started a lunchtime salad service at Baxter Plant for all interested parties. For a modest fee of one dollar (all you can eat), Brian prepares salads using only the freshest vegetables and ingredients available. The benefits of participating in "Serbin's Salad Service" have resulted in healthier, leaner, happier and more productive individuals. (Management, take note!).

## NEW BABIES

Walter Bracken of Automotive Maintenance, a boy, Kevin Thomas, 8 lbs., 7 oz. on November 14, 1987.

Leroy McLoughlin, of Automotive Maintenance, a girl, Kelly Ann, 8 lbs., 7 oz. on November 28, 1987.

Sherman Harris, of Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant, a boy, Sherman Alexander Jr., 7 lbs., 15 oz. on August 18, 1987.

Rick Stasiorowski, of Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant, a girl, Laura, 6 lbs., 15 oz. on April 16, 1987.

Lou Francesco, of Design Branch, a girl, Jillian Marie, 8 lbs., 7 oz. on November 2, 1987.

Joanne Dahme, of Customer Affairs, a boy, William Edward, 6 lbs., 11 oz. on December 25, 1987.

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## ACHIEVEMENTS

Francis Costello, Ph.D., Analytical Chemist II, of the Materials Testing Lab, and members of the Temple and Penn State Universities' faculties, published a paper in the recent edition of the Journal of Organic Chemistry.

## WEDDING BELLS

Mark Mills of Aquatic Biology, Wastes Organics Lab to Lori Stieffenhofer, formerly of the Safety Office, on March 5, 1988.

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## DEATHS

Cleo Williams, Inlet Cleaning, died on Christmas day, 1987. She was the Department's first and only female Heavy Equipment Operator. Ms. Williams was promoted to this position in November, 1982. Her supervisor Leroy Kelly said, "She did not ask for any special privileges. When Cleo did a job, it was well done." It was only this summer when a customer wrote in saying Ms. Williams was to be commended for her swift and thorough work. A lot of people had great admiration for Ms. Williams.

George Laigaie, an employee for the Department since 1985, died January 18th, 1988. Mr. Laigaie, who worked in Sludge Management, transferred from the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant as an Instrumentation Technician. His son, Timothy J. Laigaie of the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant said, "Although he only worked for the Water Department for 2 1/2 years, he brought with him a vast knowledge and understanding of instrumentation which he had accumulated in over 30 years in the trade." He will be sadly missed by his family and by his friends at the Southwest and SPDC plants.

Willis E. Hackett of Emergency Support died January 8, 1988. He worked 25 years for the Department.

Joseph Forgas of Distribution died December 31, 1987. He worked 34 years for the Department.

Thomas J. Fitzgerald of Sewer Maintenance died October 30, 1987. He worked 3 years for the Department.

PIPELINE
NEWSLETTER

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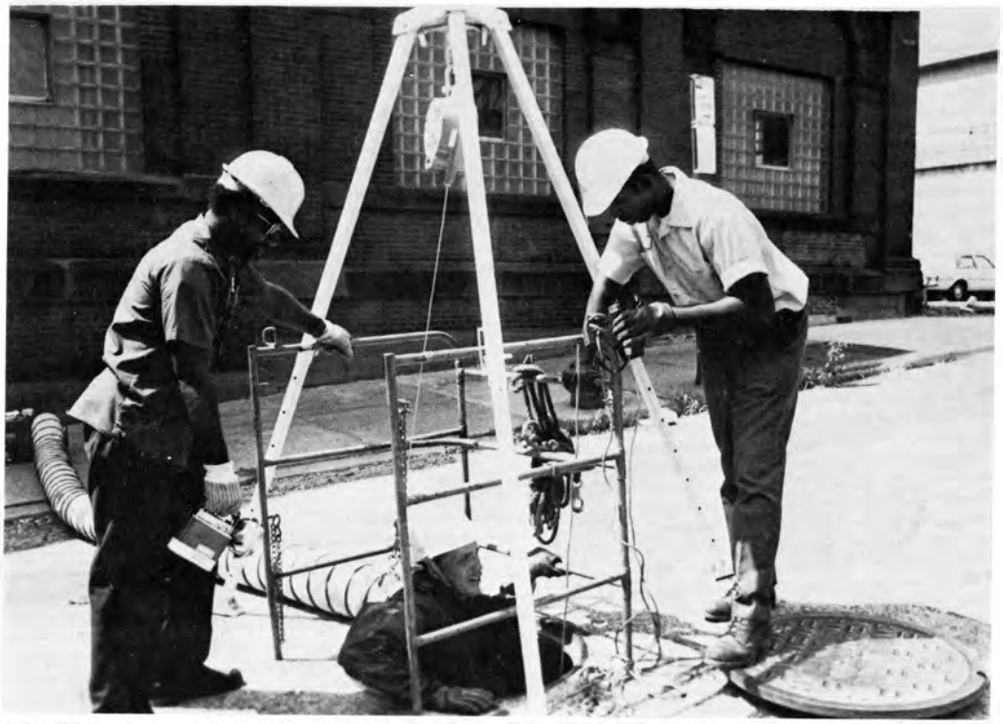
# PIPELINE

*Philadelphia Water Department Newsletter* *Summer Edition 1988*

*Robert Phillips and George Beach wish Lars Anderson well as he descends into the manhole to check the intercepting sewer.*

# Collectively Yours

When we last left our story, we were fascinated by the sight of Bill Lauer of Sewer Maintenance repairing the invert of the old brick-lined sewer running along Wissahickon Creek.

Although sewers are certainly an exciting topic, it is time to move on to the other units which make up the Waste and Stormwater Collection Division. Inlet Cleaning is another component of the collector system network. This unit has more than 75,000 inlets to maintain to insure that rain water runs smoothly into stormwater and combined sewers. Inlets have to be cleaned periodically due to the accumulation of trash and other debris such as leaves, which are swept in with the rain or sometimes dropped into inlets by people. This trash clogs inlets and can cause flooding and odors. In 1987, over 49,000 inlets were cleaned mechanically and over 4,000 cleaned manually.

According to Douglas McCoy, Inlet Cleaning Supervisor, almost anything can be found in inlets, from trash, jewelry, bed springs... anything imaginable. McCoy said, "The public needs to be educated. Some people do not realize that the trash they conveniently drop into inlets clogs up the system." Claude Brown, Inlet Cleaning Superintendent, agreed. "We cannot take inlets for granted. Inlets provide a service to get the surface water off the street. People must realize that inlets do not have a direct line to an incinerator."

In addition to cleaning inlets, the unit is also responsible for retrieving and installing inlet covers, installing locking covers, unclogging choked inlet traps and outlet piping so that inlets can take water, alleviating flooded streets and intersections when hydrants are illegally opened during summer months, when heavy rains occur and during fire-fighting operations. Of all of these, vandalism causes the largest problem. Missing or stolen inlet covers create hazardous conditions for pedestrians, who can trip or fall over an uncovered inlet. Brown added that "people should report open inlets as soon as possible. Open inlets can be especially dangerous for the blind and the elderly."

Since moving into its new Fox Street headquarters, Inlet Cleaning's efficiency has increased as a result of its Operational Information System. This computerized system allows Inlet Cleaning to monitor the status of each inlet in the city. This system provides detailed graphics of the inlets, helping customer service representatives pin-point which inlets need to be cleaned. The system can also track what is happening to complaints, update information, maintain records and serve as a scheduling source for crew chiefs.

The 24 employees of the Interceptor Services unit are responsible for the operation, cleaning, maintenance and repair of regulators, tide gates, diversion chambers, syphon valves and other wastewater control devices. The Unit inspects 174 combined sewer regulator chambers and 20 diversion chambers within the City. These chambers are located along the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers and the Pennypack, Frankford, Tacony and Cobbs creeks. Interceptors also respond to oil and chemical spills, fires or any other type of emergencies involving the combined sewer regulator system.

Intercepting chambers perform a vital function in the Water Department's efforts to prevent the pollution of our waterways. Normally, wastewater is diverted by a weir, or "half wall," into an interceptor chamber which directs the flow to a collector sewer to one of our three wastewater treatment

*(continued on page 2)*

## INSIDE PIPELINE

## Collectively Yours

*(continued from page 1)*

*Lawrence Phillips brooms the area after the inlet has been cleaned.*

plants. During periods of heavy rainfall, the combined sewer may reach its capacity, causing some of the flow to leap over the weir and into a stream or river, while remaining flow is still directed through the chamber. Presently, this type of arrangement is vital, for without the regulators, the combined sewer systems would back-up, causing massive floodings throughout the City. Excessive flows could badly damage the sewer system and overload our treatment plants' capacities.

Ron Lamon, Interceptor Service Supervisor, who quipped that "all of the good-looking people work for Interceptors," is also proud of the amount of work accomplished by his unit every day. "On an average day," Lamon stated, "Interceptor crews make approximately 34 confined entries. They enter regulator chambers protected against all of the hazards associated with turbulent flowing water, such as industrial wastes and toxic gases, to repair, clean up or grease a gate."

Maintaining the City's regulating chambers has been made easier by the Combined Sewer Overflow Program, which to date is working in the chambers in the Northeast section of Philadelphia and is still in its developmental stages. So far, the program has been a great success. Instrumentation such as level sensors and rain gauges send signals to the process control computer at the Fox Street headquarters, alerting crews of gates which are jammed or malfunctioning. The 63 monitoring stations installed in the northeast chambers allow crews to identify trouble spots first thing in the morning, eliminating random spot checking and the possibility of missing a chamber in need of repair.

Collector System Support provides engineering and technical services to Inlet Cleaning, Interceptors and Sewer Maintenance and can take credit for the design of the Operational Information System. A similar system is in the works for Sewer Maintenance, and due to its complexity, it is still in its developmental stages. Collector System Support has 39 employees and three separate units – Water Transport Records, Engineering Services and Data Acquisitions.

In reference to the entire Collector Support System, Robert Thompson, Water Transport Engineer II, said, "We find ourselves being a jack-of-all-trades. We get involved with policy making, with regulatory agencies, with different departments and people. We may not work on one project continuously because we always have something important going on. Yet we work with a team concept in mind. The most rewarding thing is when you finally accomplish something that has been an ongoing problem."

# Time to Give

Many of us could not afford to donate $30,000 at a drop of the hat to social and community organizations. Stars, athletes and the wealthy in general, e.g., Michael Jackson, Mike Tyson and Donald Trump, can afford to give healthy sums of money to organizations that help the poor, children, and those less fortunate. Such donations are necessary and admirable. However, we have people here in the Department who give just as much or more than these men by donating another valuable entity – their time. The volunteers from our Department are from different backgrounds and have different reasons for choosing the organizations they work with. But no matter what type of work they do, they help to make the lives of others better. The organizations they volunteer for vary from the Afro-American Cultural & Historical Museum to the Boy and Girl Scouts of America. Most of these volunteers work for more than one organization and emphasize the need for additional volunteers. In some cases you can give up your lunch time once or twice a week to stuff envelopes for an organization. Every bit helps. Contact the following volunteers for more information.

| | |
|---|---|
| Bill Toffey<br>592-6247 | Friends of Andorra Natural Area<br>Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill<br>Philadelphia Botanical Society |
| Edna Hassel<br>592-4936 | Afro-American Cultural & Historical Museum |
| Idell Dearry Sr.<br>1-5-2037 | Teen Haven |
| Charles E. Mingo<br>16-1618 | Shekinal Revival Temple |
| Michelle Mason<br>592-4906 | New Hope Outreach Center |
| John Morris<br>592-6158 | Block Captains |
| Joe Cerrone<br>592-8095 | Big Brother/Big Sister Organization |
| Elmer Lott<br>16-1315 | Boy Scouts of America |
| Gail Maenner<br>16-1313 | Juniata Park Boys & Girls Club |
| Gary Burlingame<br>592-0209 | Community Care Center of Northeast |


*Michelle Mason*


*Gary Burlingame*


*Joe Cerrone*


*Elmer Lott*


*John Morris*


*Gail Maenner*


*Edna Hassell*


*Bill Toffey*

*Charles Mingo*


*Idell Dearry*

# A Big Brother In Our Midst

If you are 18 or older, willing to spend only four hours a week with a lonely child between the ages of seven to 16 and can attend bi-monthly meetings, according to Joe Cerrone from Industrial Waste, you may qualify to join the ranks of the Big Brother/Big Sister organization. The organization matches up fatherless boys and motherless girls with role models who they can talk to and who can help give the extra guidance that they may be missing in a one parent household. Joe has been a part of the Big Brother/Big Sister organization for the last eight years. He serves on the Activity Committee and the Membership Committee as a Big Brother Field Representative.

Being a big brother himself, Joe knows that the candidates he helps select have to not only have patience but they must also be dedicated to finding time for a little brother or sister in their schedule. Joe's little brother Joey is 13 years old. He has been Joe's fourth little brother since he has been in the program. For the last four years they have been together doing everything from walking, talking, camping, playing and watching sports to going to the zoo. Joe said that he likes this one on one relationship with Joey because he can see where he is helping Joey to grow as a young person.

Joe has two children, Mike, 4 and daughter Catie, 10, but he still finds time to spend with Joey and the Big Brother/Big Sister organization. In reference to other volunteers who have obligations and still find time for the organization, Joe said, "All the volunteers are really special people. Over the years you feel a real comraderie with the other volunteers. It's kind of neat to see the program still in tact."

# Spending Time With Teens

Teen Haven is a national Christian organization which gives teens of all races a change to get to know one another and have fun together. This non-profit organization is located on North Broad Street, is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 6 – 9. Idell Dearry, from Sewer Maintenance, is a teaching assistant for the program and a driver. He picks the teens up and takes them to church, bible studies and other Christian affairs throughout the city connected with Teen Haven. With four children of his own who participate in the program Idell said, "It's a joy to talk to those children and a joy to see young people not involved in drugs. It's just a thrill to see them doing something constructive – not just my children but kids period."

Idell's oldest son was attending Teen Haven when he started getting involved. Teen Haven needed a driver about a couple of years ago. Idell took a driving test with the director, passed and has been working and driving for Teen Haven ever since.

Idell also spends time ministering to inmates at Holmesburg Prison and the elderly at a nursing home located at 10th & Wallace. He will soon be ministering to youth at a half-way house here in the city. The reason for his volunteer work can be summed up when he said, "Any work being directed towards the Lord is worthwhile and enjoyable."

# Busy, Busy Beaver

Gail M. Maenner, a clerk typist at NE-Abatement, has quite a busy schedule. For the last six years she has been spending approximately 10 hours a week working for the Juniata Park Boys and Girls Club, a community non-profit organization which survives through community fund raising.

"If we did not volunteer, it would not get done," said Gail in reference to the work the entire community does for the club. To survive, the club has to raise enough money to meet expenses. Besides major expenses for athletic programs, the club has to pay the City for renting the building. Gail does her share to raise money. She organizes and runs an annual carnival for one week in the spring which raises $50,000. She also coaches a soccer team in the spring and a basketball team in the fall for the club, helps run the Christmas Bazaar, runs the snack stand at athletic events, presides as president for the ladies auxiliary, organizes dances for teens, writes articles about the club to local papers and serves as a liaison to City agencies.

Gail's contribution continues to bond the community and its children. It is not a surprise that Gail's dedication for this club can be traced back to her parents. Her father was once President of the club. It is apparent that Gail's spirit of caring is rooted in the pride she has for her community.

# Volunteering from the Heart

The Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum provides the finest example of Afro-American history and culture. They have various exhibits for different occasions. These exhibits extend from the history of the Black church to the present state of South Africa. The museum also has workshops, movies, and events designed for the family to enjoy. Quality volunteers like Edna Hassell from Customer Information help to maintain the Museum's exhibitions, programs and presentations.

Edna who thinks that the volunteer time she gives is more than just work said, "You get to meet people. There are a lot of people who are not aware of what the museum offers. I am happy to tell people what they have to offer. Volunteering has its rewards. I like being positive – just helping people – period."

Edna's volunteer work extends from soliciting membership for the museum to getting the mail out. She also helps with the museum's annual phon-a-thon in which memberships are gathered. She spends four hours a week with the museum.

She spends the rest of her time volunteering for different activities held for the Tourist Center at Penn's Landing. Edna was recently on the Planning Committee for the "Black Family Reunion Conference," a three day workshop which occurred in February. She finds volunteer work to be no hassle since she has been involved with social events to help others for more than 15 years.

# Giving Blood & Time

Charles Mingo from Emergency Support Services, volunteers in the "Crack Down On Drugs" program for the Shekinah Revival Temple as well as holding the following positions: Chairman of the Deacon Board, member of the Trustee Board, Vice President of the ushering board and a member of the adult choir. "I have a 12-year-old son and I don't want him to be caught in drugs. I volunteer to let the community know there is a problem. I just want them to know I am concerned," said Charles who stands out on the streets to tell neighbors what is being done to fight drugs and what can be done. He just wants to make things better for Philadelphia's neighborhoods and their children.

Charles has also donated about 35 units of blood for the 19 years that he has been working for the Department. He mentioned that his life is about doing work for the Lord whether it is giving blood or giving his time.

*"I volunteer to let the community know there is a problem. I just want them to know I am concerned," says Charles...*

He said, "The Blood drive is important because you have millions and millions of people who need transfusions. Thirty years ago you did not hear about a blood shortage. Today you do. I have to at least do my part."

# Prepared To Service

His wife volunteered him to go camping for a week with a boy scout troop as a favor for a friend. This interaction with the Boy Scouts, however, was a new beginning for Elmer Lott, a mechanical electrical operator for the NEWPCP. He has been volunteering with the Boy Scouts for many years since his original trip.

"Anytime you can help give guidance – it feels good. There are many kids that don't have a father figure. We are in the business to help put kids on the straight road. However, we also need more adults to volunteer," said Elmer explaining why he is involved with the Boy Scouts.

Elmer spends approximately 30-40 hrs. a month volunteering as District Commissioner, with a staff of Assistant District Commissioners and Unit Commissioners. Elmer and his staff serve as a liaison between the cub scouts, scout masters and the Boy Scout Council of Philadelphia. He and his staff also help to organize the troops.

A big believer in giving kids something constructive to do, Elmer has a track record of helping youths in various organizations. Before volunteering his time with the Boy Scouts, Elmer was helping the Girl Scouts of America when he had three daughters participating in the program. Elmer also spent eight to nine years volunteering at the Germantown YMCA until it closed. Elmer said that the Boy Scout motto is – Be Prepared. He, without a doubt is well prepared to help the children in his community.

# Captain of the Block

John A. Morris, a communications operator in Security Services, volunteers at least 10 hours a week as block captain for the 200 block of Melville Street.

John has been block captain for the last nine years. Even though he sings professionally at night clubs, plays basketball with a semi-pro team, sings with the Mt. Ephram Male chorus and holds the position as Jr. Deacon in the Mason Keystone Lodge 24, he still finds time to give to the community.

As block captain, John organizes block parties and block clean ups. He helps the senior citizens take care of trash on their sidewalks and shovel snow during the winter. Growing up in the neighborhood and living on Melville St. for 28 years, John knows all the children on his block on a first name basis. About a year or two ago he helped the Crisis Intervention Network ease tension between Black and Asian children.

John who enjoys working with the children in his neighborhood said, "With a little guidance you can see a tremendous change – kids become more polite. They say good morning, good afternoon and good night."

Even though John has recently moved out of the neighborhood, he remains the block captain at the request of the neighbors. He said that he goes to the neighborhood every day to "secure the fort" and to see that things are okay. Being appreciated by the people of Melville St. makes him proud to be Captain of the Block.

# No Turkeying Around

Before turkeys hit the freezer in the market they have to be caught. Imagine turkey hunting for two to three years and never being able to get up close to shoot one to take home. Well, John Craney from Customer Service can confess to this experience. Every spring he goes turkey hunting in up-state Pennsylvania for a week to return empty-handed.

Even though he returns without a bird in hand, every year he gets better at out-smarting the turkeys he hunts. The reason John has not caught a turkey just yet goes far beyond the skill of shooting. According to John, turkeys are very intelligent birds who have keen senses – excellent hearing and sight. In order to catch one, you have to get awfully close and in order to get close you have to discover tactics so that the turkey does not know you are near. Experiments have been performed to show that if a human being stands in an area for 10 seconds a turkey can scan the area in 1/10 of that time and spot you first. That's time enough for the turkey to get away and hide.

John tries two different techniques to outsmart these birds. Since the hunters are only allowed to shoot the male turkey, John uses a turkey call box which makes the sound of a female turkey. If the sound is made to perfection and the male turkey is convinced that a female turkey is near, he will respond by following the sound of the turkey box. Making the turkey call is not always easy. In the spring you cannot use the same call you use in the fall. The calls range in different pitches. In the evening when you cannot hear or see the male turkeys, the owl hooter is used. Since the turkey and the owl are natural enemies, the turkey will gobble which allows you to find its location. John and the other hunters wear camouflage clothing so that they are not spotted easily by the turkeys. John says the most important thing is to be hidden and still.

*John Craney and his sneaky turkey box.*

Although John is constantly listening to tapes on turkey hunting to improve on his techniques, he stresses safety measures for people who enjoy hunting turkeys. "The main thing is not to have anybody injured. While hunting, everyone should remember that you don't have to shoot something to have a good time. Comraderie with the other fellows and the beautiful scenery of the mountains are what I enjoy the most," said John.

Most people laugh and have a lot of questions for John when they find out about his turkey hunting. However, turkey hunting is definitely no laughing matter nor just another sport to John. Let's hope he catches one before next Thanksgiving, and then maybe he will invite us to the feast.

# Administration Help

The government has not been giving out many dollars lately, not even to the most hard working and worthy organizations. Gary A. Burlingame, an aquatic biologist at the Belmont Plant is a member of the Board of Directors at the Community Care Center (CCC) of Northeast. Gary helps this non-profit organization raise money to provide home health care to the elderly, handicapped and infirm.

According to Gary, the CCC of Northeast is one of the first organizations of its kind. It is supported by the community of Northeast Philadelphia and its churches. It is a ministry that provides health and housekeeping care with spiritual and emotional support at an affordable cost to the client.

Gary has been involved with this organization for 3 to 4 years. He and his wife initially started with the organization by working out of their church, the Holmesburg Methodist in Northeast Philadelphia. Gary runs the Sunday Nursery at his church and he and his wife co-chair the Council on Ministry. Gary encourages anybody interested in volunteering for the CCC of Northeast to call him.

# It's About Caring

Very few people are willing to go to a prison as a volunteer and very few people are willing to volunteer their time to talk to street people, prostitutes and drug addicts. Nevertheless, Michelle Mason from Customer Affairs has been volunteering her time for 2-3 years helping people who have been abandoned by the system.

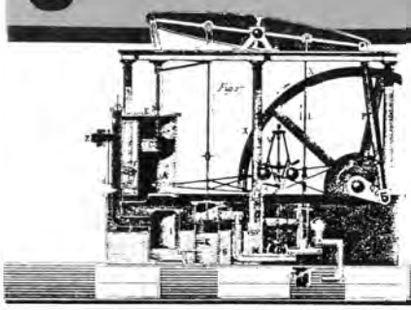
"Caring for people that most people forget about and spreading the gospel", Michelle said, "are the most important things I enjoy about volunteering." At 25, Michelle is an evangelist with the New Hope Outreach Center at 4913 Wayne Avenue where she is in charge of the Children Ministries.

Michelle is also in charge of the Prison Ministry for her church. Three times a week from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., Michelle takes a group of church members out to the Holmesburg prison to counsel inmates and fellowship in bible study. Michelle, who does not profess to always being relaxed while volunteering at the prison said, "The first time I went I was very paranoid. I practically cried. Now, I love it. I love it better than eating. I feel like I'm a part of it. Spreading the gospel there makes me feel at home."

Michelle also spreads the gospel to drug addicts from the Narcotics Anonymous Program who come to her and ask for help. These addicts are usually recommended by former drug users that Michelle has helped in the past.

And last but not least, Michelle also tutors for the Mayor's Commission on Literacy. As you can see, Michelle enjoys the challenge of working one on one with people and helping them to the best of her ability. With one daughter, Angie, 7, she still meets her role as a mother and provider as she helps others less fortunate.

***"The first time I went I was very paranoid. I practically cried. Now, I love it. I love it better than eating. I feel like I'm part of it."***



# WHAT'S PUMPING

*Queen Lane's fountain....*

Queen Lane personnel are going all out in beautification efforts at their plant. In addition to the spot-lighting of the architecturally pleasing Filtration Building, a QL crew built a fountain to celebrate the essence of the plant...water. Judging from the group assembled in the picture, it sure isn't the fountain of youth.

*....and the men who built it.*

## Safety Luncheon

*by Ben Aptaker, Safety Office*

On July 19, the Safety Office held its annual Safety Incentive Awards Luncheon. Thirty-five Water Department employees who had not lost time due to injury in 1986 or 1987, and drivers who had no preventable collisions in 1986, had their names chosen at random by computer. The 35 lucky employees were invited to lunch at the ARA Conference Room, where they were informed that they each had won a $75 savings bond. Commissioner Marrazzo and the Safety Office staff spoke briefly on the purpose of the awards, and the methods of selection, and thanked those present for their conscientious approach to safety in their work places.

In addition to the savings bond, 150 eligible employees were awarded flashlights as incentive prizes.

## Nature for Volunteering

About six years ago the Friends of Andorra Natural Area was only in the earliest stage of development. Today this organization functions as an educational and community center that welcomes anyone in the city who wants to visit. They have a team of naturalists who direct an interpretative program. The center provides nature walks, festivals, special events and a visitor center call the "tree house." Skin from rabbits, frogs and other animals are provided for children to touch. There are also trails for hiking and horse riding.

"There is something for everyone," said Bill Toffey, a manager in Sludge Management and one of the founding members of the Friends of Andorra Natural Area. He helped to review and organize the plan to acquire the property that is used for the center. As a board member and treasurer for the Friends of Andorra Natural Area, Bill controls the funds which hire office staff and pay for educational materials used at this city-owned nature center in upper Roxborough. Bill also helps raise money and conduct volunteer work. He has been with the organization since its beginning and enjoys playing a continuing role in its growth.

"I like to help build and contribute to what makes the city worth living in. It's hard to say no. I feel a personal responsibility to contribute to the community," said Bill when asked about his volunteer work at the center.

Bill is also Moderator for the Board of Deacons at the Presbyterian Church of Chestnut Hill where he serves as chairman to a 24 member group which distributes food and clothes in Northwest Philadelphia, visits the elderly and visits infirm church members. Adding to his volunteer service in the community, Bill is the treasurer of the Philadelphia Botanical Club.

# Philadelphia's Water Wonder

An exhibit featuring the Fairmount Water Works was at the Philadelphia Museum of Art until September 25. The exhibit contained paintings, watercolors, prints, photographs, drawings, sculptures, and even an off-scale, century-old model, 42 inches by 30 inches and 19 inches at its highest, of the Water Works and the surrounding area. To date, approximately $8 million has been spent on the restoration. Completion is expected in 1991.

*William Rush's "The Schuylkill Freed" at the Art Museum.*

# Letters From our Customers

Dear Mayor Goode:
I would like to say thank you to the two men in truck #840065 from the Water Dept. who got my skateboard out of the sewer. They came within an hour after I called and got it out for me.*

Thank you.

Al M.
Age 11
Elbridge St.
Phila.

* *Our skateboard heros are James Workman and Joe Hall of Inlet Cleaning.*

Dear Commissioner:
I am writing this note to let you know how pleased I was with the courtesy and time that was taken by one of your employees, John Craney of Customer Service, to satisfy my problem. About 10 days ago I had a sewer problem in front of my house. It was flooded and overflowing and needed a cleaning badly. When I got in touch with your office, Mr. Craney assured me some one would be out. He called me and told me when they would be there. This matter was taken care of in one day. I wish to commend John Craney for a very caring position he took in reference to my problem.

Sincerely,

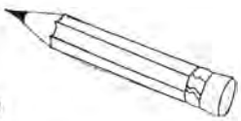
John J.D.
Eastwick Ave.
Phila.

Dear Mr. Marrazzo:
I am writing to acknowledge an impressive and outstanding display of customer service on the part of the Water Department. The other morning, I called your Department seeking advice and assistance in retrieving a set of house and car keys which had accidently fallen through an inlet at 24th and Pine streets. After explaining the situation to Mr. Claude Brown, he contacted a work crew in the area and instructed me to meet the crew at the inlet. The crew, consisting of Henry Brown and Mr. Jordan, promptly arrived at the appointed time. They immediately started working and with the use of a crane, removed a large quantity of the mucky residue, which was then carefully probed with a shovel. After following this procedure numerous times, Mr Jordan successfully located the keys. Thereafter, Mr. Brown and Mr. Jordan were very careful to clean and wash down the street before leaving. It certainly is a credit to the excellent service of the Water Department and especially Mr. Brown and Mr. Jordan whose work and determination recovered the lost keys.

Clayton H.T.
Two Mellon Bank Center
Phila.

# Water Department Highlights

The Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant was one of the 34 facilities in the U.S. which received the 1988 Silver Award from the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies. Silver Award recipients successfully operated with five or less National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit violations during the 1987 calendar year. Way to Operate!



## Draw!

The Pipeline, long in search of a cartoonist, is sponsoring a cartoon contest to flush out would-be artists. Cartoon material may be "drawn" from all subjects, but preference will be given to those cartoons related to water. Winners will be made famous through publication in the fall edition of the Pipeline. Send entries in care of the Pipeline, 3rd floor, ARA.

The prized Water Department volleyball trophy once again is in the clutches of the Baxter Water Treatment Plant team, which, in all fairness, did win the trophy in championship playoffs against Southeast Construction for a second year in a row. After the game, Southeast team members were seen beating each other up.

## Third Annual Open House

See the Baxter Water Treatment Plant up close and personal at this year's Open House on Saturday, October 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tours of facilities, equipment demonstrations, water refreshments and more!


*The Water Department's lead ad-mat as it appeared in area newspapers.*

## Lead Advice

Within the past few months, the Water Department's 500,000 customers started receiving the Department's new brochure, "Lead, Your Drinking Water and You," with their regular billing statements. The brochure outlines the facts about where lead in drinking water comes from. It also provides tips on what people can do to prevent it from leaching into their home water supplies. Although the city's drinking water is lead-free, we're providing this brochure as a public service to our customers, assuring them continued high-quality drinking water.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

*Gregory Josephs accepting his certificate.*

Dr. Ewaugh Finney Fields, Dean of Drexel's University College, presents Gregory Josephs of Design with a certificate recognizing his initiation into the Eta chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda, the national co-ed honorary fraternity for outstanding upperclassman. Gregory recently received his Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering at Drexel.

Congratulations to Thomas B. Gwydir, Jr., Northeast Abatement, for being granted his Professional Engineer's License.

Congratulations to Frank X. Fortino, Construction, on receiving his Professional Engineer's License on February 29, 1988.

On May 23, 1988, Michelle Taylor, NEWPCP, became the only woman Heavy Equipment Operator in the entire City.

Joe Crumety, TPO II at the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant, may have a ticket to the 1992 Olympics...and that ticket may be his 18-year-old daughter Donna. In early March, Donna, who was a senior at Hallahan High School, became the state champion in the long jump and triple jump at the Pennsylvania Indoor Track and Field Championships at Lehigh University. Donna's leaps of 18 feet, 6 inches in the long jump and 37¼ in the triple jump marked two personal bests. The Inquirer, recognizing a good athlete when it sees one, named Donna "City Athlete of the Week" in March. Rumor has it that Donna got her running talents from her dad. Can anyone at the Northeast verify?

## WEDDING BELLS

Dory Key, of Water Personnel, to Anthony Taylor, on September 10, 1988.

Carla Senss, of CBIS, and Bob Gonsiewski, of Industrial Waste, on November 26, 1988.

Karen Coleman, Sewer Maintenance, married William Stewart on July 29, 1988.

Michelle Geneine Jerry, Customer Affairs, married Vincent Mason on August 6, 1988.

## BIRTHS

Bob Rotermund, of Southwest Abatement, a girl, Britta, 5 lbs., 3 oz., on May 28, 1988.

Daniel Hazley, Meter Shop, a boy, Daniel Patrick, 9 lbs., 4 oz., on April 18, 1988.

Jim Cantz, Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant, a boy, Matthew James, 7 lbs., 4 oz., on February 26, 1988.

Diane Jackson, Sewer Maintenance, a boy, William Mark, 6 lbs., 4 oz., on March 26, 1988.

Jerome Shabazz, SEWPCP, a boy, Akmal Humam, 10 lbs., 9 oz., on August 23, 1988.

PIPELINE
NEWSLETTER

Pipeline is published by the Customer Affairs Division for the employees of the Water Department.

Joanne Dahme ..... Editor
Maureen Sullivan ..... Co-editor
Andrea Traywick ..... Staff Writer

# PIPELINE

*Philadelphia Water Department Newsletter* — *Winter Edition 1989*


# Is Anybody Listening?

*Nancy Schindler and J'Enell Williams, Administrative Technicians, boldly investigate a new complaint.*

Have you ever purchased a product and later learned that it was defective? Were you able to return it without a problem? Perhaps you had to call the company's service department to arrange for repairs. If so, did you get someone to listen to you or were you transferred from one person to another? Chances are that each of us has experienced this frustration at one time or another. We live in the age of convenience and we not only expect, but demand quality products and quality service for the goods we buy. If our expectations are not met, we are left with a less than favorable image of the product and more importantly, the company as a whole. Successful organizations have found it necessary to develop effective service policies to satisfy their customers' needs. This is also true for any public agency, including the Water Department.

Recognizing the importance of its customers, the Water Department began to reshape its service policies several years ago. The result was the creation of a new unit, Customer Information, whose primary role is to provide a sensitive and caring approach while resolving the 225,000 water and sewer complaints that the Department receives annually. Customer Information expanded the scope of its services and upgraded its staff focusing on ways to improve the quality of its operations.

Currently, the Customer Information Unit consists of 10 service representatives who handle all water and sewer-related inquiries and complaints, two administrative technicians who are responsible for more complex complaints, and a supervisor who oversees the entire operation of the unit. These employees are the customers' initial contact with the Department. Barbara Kennedy, Customer Information Supervisor, refers to her staff as the eyes and ears of the Department. "The role of these employees cannot be downplayed. They provide a vital service for both the Department and its customers. Sometimes, they encounter life-threatening situations when responding to

*(continued on page 2)*

## INSIDE PIPELINE

## Is Anybody Listening?

*(continued from page 1)*

complaints and they must be able to act quickly and appropriately," emphasizes Barbara.

In order to respond to these many inquiries and complaints, Customer Information staff members must have limitless knowledge about the Department, its employees, and the various functions of each water and wastewater unit. These employees must not only report customers' problems to the appropriate Water Department units, they must also explain to customers any problems the units may have when completing repairs. Nancy Schindler, an administrative technician, explains what it's like to work in Customer Information . . . "Sometimes I feel helpless when I know our crews are working on a complaint but haven't been able to complete repairs. I understand that all complaints can't be resolved immediately. But, in the meantime, the customer still has a problem. If I know what's going on in the field, I can explain it to the customer. If I don't know what's happening, I can't help and I find that difficult."

In a survey conducted by the American Institute of Stress, customer service representatives were ranked as working in the fourth highest job-related stress category. The Water Department's Customer Information employees have participated in several training seminars which were designed to help them deal with the difficult situations they encounter each day. The courses have included developing telephone personality, improving customer relations skills, and building team interdependence. While these skills are certainly not new to most of these employees, the seminars provide constant reinforcement of their skills. Earline Johnson, a service representative, confirms the value of the courses, "There's a lot of stress on the job but the training courses help. I hope they are continuous because we need a lot of motivation. I really feel good after the seminars." The service representatives have even gone on field trips to gain an appreciation of the work that is performed by other Water Department units. These field trips have helped the service representatives answer questions that customers have about water and sewer repairs.

In November 1988, Customer Information relocated its offices to ARA Tower in an effort to provide a more relaxing atmosphere for its service representatives. The offices have been outfitted with semiprivate work stations where the service representatives can listen to customers with minimal distractions and interruptions. A new telephone system,

*Barbara Kennedy, Customer Information Supervisor, shows Robin Zerbib how to use the Customer Information Program.*

equipped with special features such as headsets, was installed also. Joan B. Fredette, General Manager of Customer Affairs, explained why the changes were made, "The service representatives are a valuable asset. Their combined experience represents 125 years of service with the Water Department. When we searched for ways to improve the quality of customer service, it was only natural to invest in these employees, providing them with offices and equipment that would facilitate their expertise."

The most dramatic change, however, in Customer Information, was the computerization of its operations. The Customer Information Program, a complaint reporting and tracking system designed by Data Management, enables the service representatives to communicate via terminals and printers to all field units that respond to water and sewer complaints. These units include: Customer Service, Distribution, Hydrants, Emergency Support Services, Leak Detection, Meter Shop, Inlet Cleaning, Sewer Maintenance, and the City Hall Radio Room.

Customer Information is also equipped with the Inlet Cleaning Operation Information System (ICOIS) which provides graphics for inlet locations; Water Revenue's Water/Sewer Billing System, which accesses water and sewer billing accounts; and the Mayor's Electronic Answer Response System (Mayor's EARS) which transmits referral complaints to other City departments.

Although they had some apprehensions about using a computerized system, the service representatives report that it has definitely been advantageous because it has reduced the amount of time it takes to locate information. Once a complaint's location has been entered into the system, the service representatives have immediate and simultaneous access to all previously reported complaints located within a four-block radius. This information gives them a clear picture of problems occurring in a particular neighborhood. Evelyn Williams, a service representative who has worked with the Water Department for 14 years, remarked, "At first, we were apprehensive about using terminals. But we realized they were needed and we learned how to use them as we went along. Now, it' s fun using them."

With any major change in the way a unit operates, there can be some drawbacks. The service representatives have noticed that the computerized system has reduced the personal contact between those units involved in handling water and sewer complaints. Barbara Kennedy emphasizes that the system alone is not enough. It is simply a tool used to assist in reporting and tracking complaints. "It's important for all units involved to remain in touch with each other. We need to understand each other's role and to be aware of any problems that would hinder the completion of water and sewer repairs," stated Barbara.

Now that the initial plans are well underway, Customer Information is focusing its efforts on several new projects. Nancy Schindler and J'Enell Williams are working with groups of customers who have similar needs including other City agencies, community organizations and commercial users, to refine the scope of services that the Department provides to them. Next, two additional service representatives will be hired to assist in answering the 490 daily calls that Customer Information receives, and, within a year, a "Walk–In" Center will be constructed where customers can discuss, in person, their water and sewer related concerns. Eventually, the unit plans to provide 24-hour service to accommodate the increasing number of customers who work during normal business hours.

Dealing with complaints is not always a pleasant task and therefore, it requires a professional attitude tempered with patience and understanding. Robin Zerbib, the newest service representative for the Water Department, has found that each customer has different needs and that it has been a challenging experience for her to learn how to

*(continued on page 8)*

# Visions

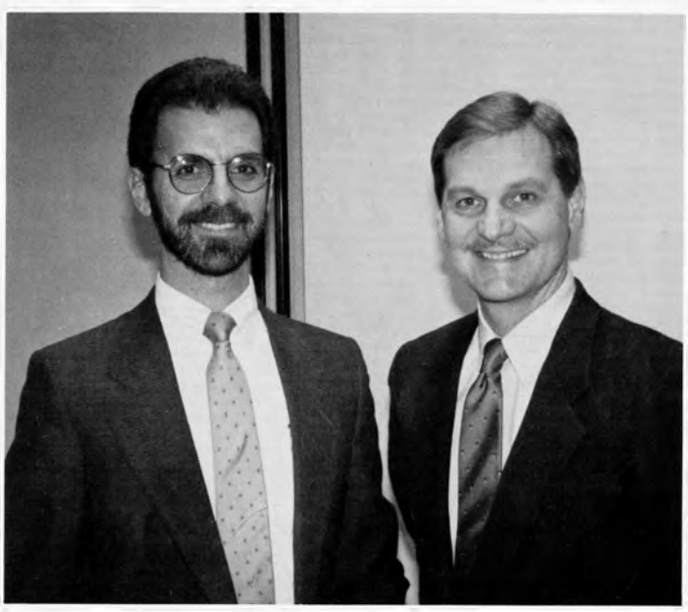
In late November, Mayor Goode announced the appointment of John Plonski as the Water Department's new Commissioner. Plonski, former Commissioner of the Department of Licenses and Inspections, replaces William J. Marrazzo, who accepted a position with a private environmental engineering firm. Plonski stated that one of his major considerations in accepting the job was the prospect of becoming involved in protecting the environment through public service.

Commissioner Plonski's interest in environmental protection dates back to his days at American University where he received a Master's Degree in Public Administration. While there, he received scholastic honors for co-authoring a paper on working with Congress towards the passage of both the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts. Plonski brings with him a wide range of experience, serving as Municipal Manager for both Norristown and Whitemarsh townships, an Executive with the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, and Town Manager of Wilmington, Vermont. In January of 1988, he was recruited by Mayor Goode to serve as Commissioner of Licenses and Inspections for the City of Philadelphia. John admits he was ready for a change and welcomed the challenge of working for a larger municipality. "I'm happy with my decision to come to Philadelphia," explained the Commissioner.

Within a year, Plonski was promoted to Water Commissioner. He is proud of this opportunity because he believes the Department is well known for its tradition of excellent service and good standing with the community. His goals for the Water Department are threefold. First, he will continue to lead the Department in its mission to improve the quality of the environment. Next, he wants to foster financial stability that will last well through the 90's. And finally, he wants to cultivate a healthy and open atmosphere that will stimulate free-flowing communication among employees and encourage them to become part of the decision-making process.

Commissioner Plonski feels that all employees of the Water Department are equally important and can contribute to the Department's success in their own unique ways. Plonski stated, "I would like to see all levels of employees participate in planning strategies for the Department. Water Department employees should have a say in what they do, since they are most familiar with the intricacies of their jobs and related services. Workers today are more educated, more sophisticated and therefore, can contribute more to the planning process."

However, Plonski cautions that incorporating employee participation at all levels, from the executive staff to the rank and file, will be a slow and gradual process. But, he contends that it can be accomplished and he looks forward to evaluating its results during the next several years. "We are a dynamic department but we must always be willing to adjust to external forces which affect our operations and be ready to face new challenges. I hope that our employees realize this. I hope they always want to learn, always want to inquire, and always want to participate in making the Department a better city agency whose effectiveness will propel us into the next century."



*Former Water Commissioner William J. Marrazzo and new Water Commissioner John Plonski.*

# Reflections

On September 29, 1988, William J. Marrazzo officially resigned as the City of Philadelphia's Water Commissioner. After 17 years of service with the Water Department, Marrazzo accepted the position of Vice President and Division Manager of Design and Applied Technology with Roy F. Weston, Inc., an environmental consulting firm located in West Chester, Pa. He will also serve as a member of Weston's Board of Directors. Marrazzo's decision to join the Weston team was primarily based on his personal interest and deep concern for the environment.

Bill confides he had no major goals when he began his career as a graduate engineer for the Water Department. Quite simply, he admits, "I needed a job." Once aboard, Marrazzo chose to stay because of the many opportunities here in the environmental field. Bill feels he was lucky to have worked on large public works programs, environmental legislation, capital programs, and municipal funding projects. He believes his involvement in projects like these gave him the recognition and necessary experience to manage a large municipal utility.

When asked to cite what he feels were his major accomplishments as Water Commissioner, Marrazzo noted several initiatives. One was leading the negotiations of the terms of a consent decree which resolved four environmental actions brought by federal and state regulatory agencies against the Department involving its three wastewater treatment plants. He also mentioned instituting the Department's first Solid Waste Management Plan which ceased ocean disposal of sewage sludge one year ahead of the national deadline. But perhaps the most illustrative act which highlighted Marrazzo's management style were his efforts to balance the Department's approach in fulfilling federal guidelines while acknowledging the legitimacy of concerns raised by consumer advocacy groups. He predicts that communicating with these groups on a routine basis, rather than responding to them only during crises, will be one of the most difficult but important challenges facing his successor.

When questioned what he will miss most about the Department, Bill quickly responds, "Our employees. In this job you need to rely on and trust others. You learn to respect their judgement. Whatever good elements of my reputation exist they are no more than a public reflection of our employees' integrity, dedication and hard work under enormously difficult circumstances. I feel humbled by them."


The
Philadelphia
WATER DEPARTMENT
Welcomes You!
SAT. OCT.15 10-4PM


COLIFORM
ANALYSIS

# 1988 Open House

The Water Department sponsored its third annual Open House at the Samuel S. Baxter Water Treatment Plant on Saturday, October 15. Former Commissioner William J. Marrazzo kicked off the event with the help of Managing Director James Stanley White. Each year the Department invites the public to visit one of its facilities as part of its efforts to provide them with a better understanding of its operations. This year's Open House theme, "Productivity through Computerization," was chosen to acquaint customers with present-day water treatment operations and technologies used to produce a readily available, healthy water supply. In keeping with this theme, Water Treatment employees guided visitors through the recently installed process control center where all phases of water treatment at the Baxter Plant can be controlled by a central computer. From there, the tours continued through the filter gallery, chemical treatment room, and sedimentation basins. "We had a very interesting day at the Baxter Treatment Plant. The kids enjoyed the tours and the adults enjoyed them. The Water Department workers provided good demonstrations and explained their duties in an interesting manner," stated Karen McCullough, who attended the Open House with her husband Frank, and three children.

However, tours of the Plant were not the only activities taking place during the Open House. Programmers from Data Management transformed Baxter's conference room into a mini-computer center where guests could inquire about their water and sewer bills, report inlets requiring cleaning, get a history of water and sewer complaints, and learn about future water main and sewer reconstruction projects in their neighborhoods.

In addition, guests were allowed to stroll through the filter gallery where exhibits were set up representing the daily functions of several Water Department units. Visitors could sample a taste and odor test, learn how water meters are repaired, try Wastewater Treatment's computer-based interactive video training, or inspect a model of a residential water supply line.

In front of the Baxter Plant, a convoy of Water Department trucks converged in the parking lot where visitors learned about the specialized services carried out each day by different units. Employees demonstrated how they clean inlets, examine sewers, investigate water leaks, install ferrules and repair hydrants. Agronomists from Sludge Management explained the beneficial uses of recycled sludge compost products while representatives from Customer Affairs provided tips on how to conserve water in homes.

After participating in the activities, many guests relaxed on the south lawn of the Plant where hot dogs and apple cider were served. Over 400 people attended the Open House including many employees and their families. Neighbors from nearby Baker's Bay and Delaire Landing were there as well as members of The Church of New Hope and Faith, Inc., and Girl Scout Troop #1348. "We made many inquiries and learned much more than we ever dreamed existed in the water and sewer service," exclaimed Virginia McGowen, their troop leader.

The Open House is coordinated by the Customer Affairs Division with the help of the Open House Committee which consists of representatives from each participating unit.

However, the success of the Open House must be attributed to the professionalism of all those employees who prepared the exhibits along with the enthusiastic support of the employees of both the Baxter Plant and Water and Wastewater Analysis Laboratory, who gladly welcomed the guests to their facilities.

# Employee Suggestion Program

Remember you can earn up to $5,000 for your ideas! If you think you have a good idea, the Employee Suggestion Committee wants to hear from you. If your suggestion is adopted by the Department, you will receive a cash award after it has been placed into effect. There are two types of awards:

**Type I** – These are suggestions which will provide direct and measurable dollar savings in the cost of Water Department operations. The savings will be measured in terms of reduced labor costs, reduced cost of materials, or other cost reductions in the performance of Water Department operations. Award amounts will be 10% of the first year net savings to the Department, payable in amounts up to $5,000.

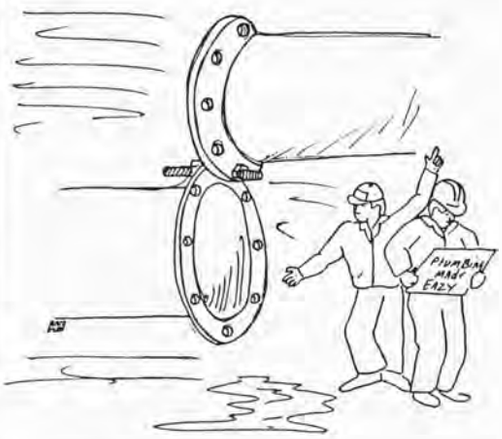
**Type II** – These are suggestions which will improve the working conditions of Water Department employees or provide better service to Water Department customers, but do not necessarily provide measurable dollar savings in the cost of Water Department operations. The Suggestion Committee uses a merit system to determine the exact amount of the award which can range from $50 to $100.

**How to Submit Your Suggestion**–When you have an idea, think about it thoroughly and write it out on a Water Department Employee Suggestion Form. Forms are available at your place of work or by contacting the Suggestion Program Office at 592-6114.

**Where to Send Your Suggestion**– Forward your Water Department Employee Suggestion Form to :

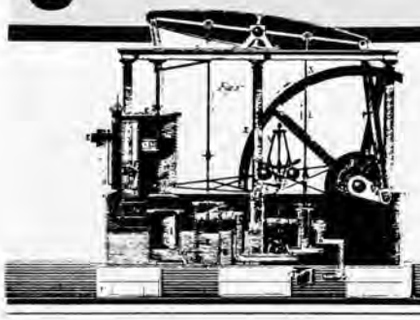
*Philadelphia Water Department*
*Employee Suggestion Program*
*ARA Tower at Reading Center*
*5th Floor*

The Committee reviews suggestions on a routine basis and they will notify you concerning the status of your suggestion. Since the Employee Suggestion Program was established three years ago, over $6,000 have been awarded to employees, the highest individual award being $1,200. An Awards Ceremony for the recent winners was held in late February at the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant. Look for details in the next issue of the Pipeline.




# Cartoon Contest Winner

Cartoons are for big people too! Harold Snow of Central Stores has submitted the Water Department's winner. Look for Harold in future editions and get his signature now while you can still afford it. Walt Disney move over.



# WHAT'S PUMPING

*Exchanging safety tips at the Awards Luncheon.*

## A Salute to Safety

*By Ben Aptaker*

On November 23, the Safety Office held a Safety Incentives Award luncheon to honor some of our employees who drove an average of two hours a day or more, and achieved a record of no preventable accidents for 1987. The luncheon was highlighted by the drawing for prizes, with top prize, a $500 savings bond, won by James I. Williams of the NEWPCP. Freddie Moses, of Inlet Cleaning, won a $100 bond, and $75 bonds were won by Stephen D. Young, Distribution, Charlie Willis, E.S.S., John Skoczylas, Sludge Management, John Lutza and James Crews, Building Maintenance, Betty Peterson and Joseph Wallace, Security and Larry Moys, Rodent Control.

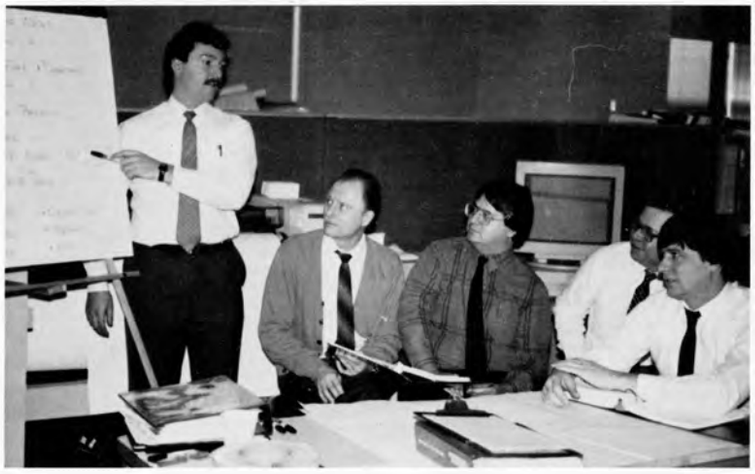
In the course of compiling statistics for their 1988 Annual Report, the Safety Office has observed an extremely dramatic drop in the Water Department's vehicle accident frequency rate. Frequency rate statistics reflect the number of accidents that occur for every one million miles driven. . In 1986, the Water Department had 229 accidents reported and a frequency rate of 61.25. In 1987, 224 accidents resulted in a frequency rate of 56.06. In 1988, we had only 195 accidents reported in a fleet which was on the road for 4,528,761 miles. This works out to a rate of 43.06 accidents for every million miles driven. All Water Department employees who drive defensively contributed to this amazing drop in the rate, and the Safety Office salutes their efforts.

## The Next Generation

The Design Branch of Planning and Engineering Division recently obtained an advanced Computer-Aided Design and Drafting system (CADD) that will enable them to produce contract drawings for water main and sewer reconstruction, and many other projects. Employees from the Survey Unit will also use the system to produce "base-plans" showing existing conditions for a particular project such as street elevations, trees, and underground pipes. The system will enable employees to produce original drawings and revise them with a few keystrokes instead of hand drawing them each time. They can also zoom in on any particular area of a drawing, reduce or enlarge it to scale, and turn it around in any direction as requested. John Kline of Survey referred to the CADD system as "bringing drafting into the space age."

Since the CADD system was installed last November, George H. Bruchbocker, 3rd, Gregory Josephs and John S. Pruszkowski of Design, along with John M. Kline, have been learning its various features. Under the guidance of McDonnell Douglas Built Environment Technologies, they are receiving training for several drafting programs, civil engineering design programs for higher-level survey and civil design work, and VMS, a memory operating system. "I'm enjoying the whole learning experience. I've never had the opportunity to work with computers and I'm looking forward to using CADD for drafting," remarked John Pruszkowski, a civil engineering technician. When these four employees become familiar with the system, they will train other designers and drafters in both the Design and Survey Units. Gregory Josephs, a graduate electrical engineer, explained that by July, enough employees should be trained to use the graphics terminals so that the new system is fully utilized. Once full production is achieved, he estimates the number of man-hours required to produce water and sewer reconstruction drawings will be reduced by one-half to two-thirds.

Initially, the CADD system will be used mainly to produce these reconstruction drawings. But as the system's numerous applications become familiar to Design employees, they will be able to use it for projects such as drawing architectural plans for additional construction at the Department's water and wastewater treatment plants. Design Drafting Supervisor George Bruchbocker suggested that the system's benefits still remain to be seen. George stated, "It will be an ongoing challenge to use what we are learning now and make it work for future projects. Each employee will bring something different to the system. It all depends on how he or she will incorporate its applications with his or her daily routine. We've only just scratched the surface of the CADD system's possibilities."



*Design and Survey employees receive instruction on new CADD system.*

# Letters From our Customers

Dear Sir:
In July 1986 I was kidnapped at gunpoint on 2nd & South streets and taken to a dump by the Philadelphia Airport. Finally, last month, the two men responsible for this nightmare have been found guilty and sentenced to 25-50 years in prison. The point of this letter is really to say thank you to John C. Browner of your SWWPCP Security team for doing his job and patrolling the area. Had it not been for Mr. Browner, I certainly would not be here today to write this letter. When Mr. Browner came down the road my kidnappers assumed he was police and fled. I just wanted to inform you of the fine, responsible man you have working for you.

Sincerely,

Bruce C.
Collingswood, NJ

Dear Sir,
On November 22nd, my car set on fire on Aramingo and Wheatsheaf Lane. Although I did not know how bad this fire was, along side of me was a Water Department truck with Tim Keeler and Joe Neiss of E.S.S. . They told me to get out of my car before it blew up. Of course I was petrified but they stopped their truck and put the fire hydrant on and got the fire under control. They were just like guardian angels. After the fire was out, they comforted me and asked if they could take me home. Since I live in New Jersey, they could not do that because they were on company time but would take me where my husband could pick me up. They did take me to Tilton and Allegheny Avenue where my brother lives.

I must tell you what fine young men you have working for you. It is good to know there are people who really care. During this Christmas season while everyone is rushing around doing their thing, it is good to know there are people who really care about others.

I extend my thanks to both of these gentlemen and it is important to me that you know what good character they have.

Sincerely,

Leona C.
Cinnaminson, NJ

Dear Sir:
I wish to thank you and a most kind, understanding and professional associate of your department for an ongoing problem that my neighbors and I are confronted with.

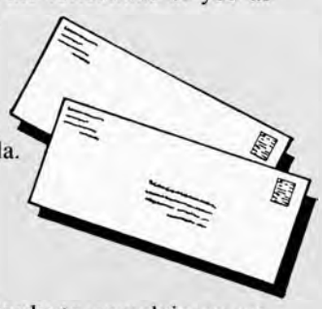
I had the recent pleasure of talking to Mrs. Evelyn Williams who should be commended for the manner in which she conducts herself by phone, and I am sure in person. When I conveyed our problem to Mrs. Williams, in her expert professional way, knew what I was talking about in every respect.

The matter is now being investigated and hopefully resolved.

The City of Philadelphia should be proud of an employee such as Mrs. Williams, and the reflections of you as her supervisor.

Sincerely,

Robert L.N.
Halsey Pl., Phila.



Dear Sir,
We are very ready to complain so we should be ready to praise. On November 29, a neighbor let a service man in my home to install a new water meter. She told me he was one of the most pleasant men she has met in a long time. This is a switch from the usual city employee although this does not apply to the Water Department, as any time we called your department the people were very pleasant and helpful. Your service man did a very neat, professional job.

Thank You,

Harry C.
Charles Street, Phila.

** The meter repair worker is Robert Meade.*

Dear Sir,
This letter of commendation is being written to express my gratitude for a good deed performed by one of your employees, namely, Mr. Nimo Brascetta.
On November 21, 1988 my car was burglarized in a parking lot. Along with other things stolen, was a letter containing pictures taken while on a recent vacation. The following day I received a telephone call from Mr. Brascetta. He said he found my pictures in a street not far from the burglary. My address and telephone number was on the envelope containing the pictures. Apparently the thief threw my letters away that did not contain anything of value to him.

During our conversation I learned that Mr. Brascetta was employed by the Philadelphia Water Department in the sewer maintenance division.

My pictures were returned to me, for which I am thankful. It is comforting to know that there are still some caring people in this world.

I rarely have a reason to write a letter of commendation, but I think his kind act warrants one. Could a copy of this letter be placed in Nino's personnel file?

Sincerely,

Frank W.
Lenola Street, Phila.

Dear Commissioner:
This letter is in reference to Nancy Schindler who is employed with the Water Department's Customer Information. In the time I have been in City Council, I must say Ms. Schindler has been most attentive and responsive to matters requested from my office.

My staff is in contact with Ms. Schindler almost on a daily basis regarding calls from my constituents. Nancy is always courteous and responds to the calls promptly.

Ms. Schindler conducts herself in a most professional manner, and is a credit to your department and the City of Philadelphia. Please accept my gratitude for a job well done.

Sincerely,

Jack Kelly
Councilman-7th-District

# Water Department Highlights

## The "Buzz" at Queen Lane

Neighbors of the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant may be aware of some additional activity at the normally "quiet" treatment facility. Queen Lane's south clearwell basin is currently undergoing a $2 million renovation, consisting of the patching and repairing of concrete columns, walls and ceilings, and the sandblasting of structural steel beams. This renovation serves to extend sound operating conditions for the clearwell for an additional 30 years, and is expected to be completed by May 15, 1989. Work on the north clearwell will begin the following fall.

The clearwells originally began operating in 1911 as slow sand filters, in which water was filtered through sand beds and cleansed after storage in raw water basins for settlement. Today they serve as storage basins for Queen Lane's treated water. The basins can store approximately 45 million gallons of drinking water.

Jerry Kuziw, Queen Lane's plant manager, was pleased about the work in progress. "Our people pride themselves on our plant's preventive maintenance plan. The City's investment in such maintenance strategies affirms and supports the Department's commitment to provide our customers with high-quality drinking water."

Renovation work is being performed for the Department by Pressure Concrete, Inc. Work is being conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

The Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association presented Commissioner Plonski with a plaque on January 11 commemorating the Department's charter membership into the Cast Iron Pipe Sesquicentury Club. As its name implies, we qualify based on our installed and still functioning 8-inch cast iron pipe that began service in 1824 on Arch Street from Front to 2nd St.

## What's Hot?

Call the "Pipeline Hotline" at 592-4900 for coverage of newsworthy events happening throughout the Water Department. Events may include special activities featuring Water Department employees, or involving its services and operations. We're always looking for stories and photo opportunities for publication in the newsletter, so give us a call!

## BIRTHS

LeRoy McLaughlin, of Auto Maintenance, a girl, Kimberly Helen, 7 lbs., 5 oz., on November 16, 1988.

Melva Deborah Sharpe, of Auto Maintenance, a girl, Tiffany Michelle, 8 lbs., 2 oz., on August 31, 1988.

Walter Lackey, of Sewer Maintenance, a boy, Cedric, 7 lbs., 11 oz., on November 23, 1988.

Nancy Sansoni, of Sludge Management, a boy, Keith Paul, 7 lbs., 2 oz., on January 10, 1989.

Patricia Camps, SEWPCP, a girl, Tiffany Nicole, 6 lbs., 14 oz., on January 27, 1988.

Matthew Moses, SEWPCP, a girl, Kristina Monique, 5 lbs.,12 oz., on April 19, 1988.

Edward Patterson, SEWPCP, a boy, Jurrell Christian, 6 lbs., 9 oz., on September 22, 1988.

Mark Meighan, SEWPCP, a boy, Sean Enor, 7 lbs.,12 oz., on September 13, 1988.

Louis Milanese, SEWPCP, a boy, David Louis, 8 lbs., on October 27, 1988.

Andrew Ferrero, SEWPCP, a boy, Andrew Louis, 5 lbs., 14 oz., on April 14, 1988.

Joseph Wawrzyniak, SEWPCP, a boy, Philip, 8 lbs., 9 oz., on October 16, 1987.

## WEDDING BELLS

James Heckmanski, of Queen Lane, to Lynne Marie Shepta, on October 22, 1988.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Mr. Frank Shock, M.E.O. at the NEWPCP received a cash award for an idea he submitted to the Employee Suggestion Committee. His suggestion will be adopted in making improvements on the ash conveying system in the preliminary treatment building at NE. It has been estimated that these improvements will save the Department approximately $12,000 per year. Congratulations to Frank!

Jim Nicolo, NEWPCP (formerly SE) and Paul Franklin, SEWPCP, were presented an award from the Department of Defense for Employer Support of Naval Reserve in behalf of one of their employees who is in the reserve.

## Is Anybody Listening?

*(continued from page 2)*

respond to each problem. More importantly, Robin and the other service representatives find their work rewarding because they enjoy helping others. These employees not only help people every day for a living, but several of them volunteer for a number of organizations including the March of Dimes, American Cancer Society and the Friends of Pennypack Park. Still others are active in their churches and community associations. It is the caring and understanding nature of these employees that make them so right for the job of listening to our customers. And the Water Department's Customer Information Unit is fortunate to have so many experienced and dedicated employees who are willing to do just that. . . listen!

PIPELINE
NEWSLETTER

Pipeline is published by the
Customer Affairs Division for
the employees of the Water Department.

Joanne Dahme. . . . . Editor
Maureen Sullivan . . . . . Co-editor
Joan Anne Przybylowicz . . . . . Staff Writer

# PIPELINE

*Philadelphia Water Department Newsletter* — *Volume 1, Issue 1 February 1990*


## View From The Pavilion by Ed Grusheski

More fortunate than most cities, Philadelphia boasts architecture which spans the centuries from the colonial quaintness of Elfreth's Alley to the Flash Gordon futurism of Liberty Place. Overlooking the City's cornucopia of architectural delights from a strategic spot on the east bank of the Schuylkill River, sits the Philadelphia Water Department's 19th century architectural and engineering wonder – the Fairmount Water Works. Designed and constructed in the early 1800s by Frederick Graff and hailed as a technological phenomenon, the Fairmount Water Works pumped water from the Schuylkill to reservoirs on Faire Mount where the Philadelphia Art Museum stands today.

Visitors came not only from Philadelphia, but from around the world to share in the excitement of the Fairmount Water Works. As early as 1815, two steam engines filled the interior of the Engine House and powered Fairmount Station. The steam power gave way to the more efficient and economical utilization of water power. Attracted by the sight of giant water wheels in the new Mill House, Philadelphians thronged to explore the technological genius of the Schuylkill.

Not just a wonder of engineering, the Fairmount Water Works also boasted a superb display of Classical Revival architecture, extensive gardens with fountains and statuary, and an unbeatable view along the Schuylkill River. It was the showpiece of the City, reproduced in travel books throughout the world.

The opening of a restaurant in the Engine House in 1835 helped solidify the Water Works as one of Philadelphia's premier leisure

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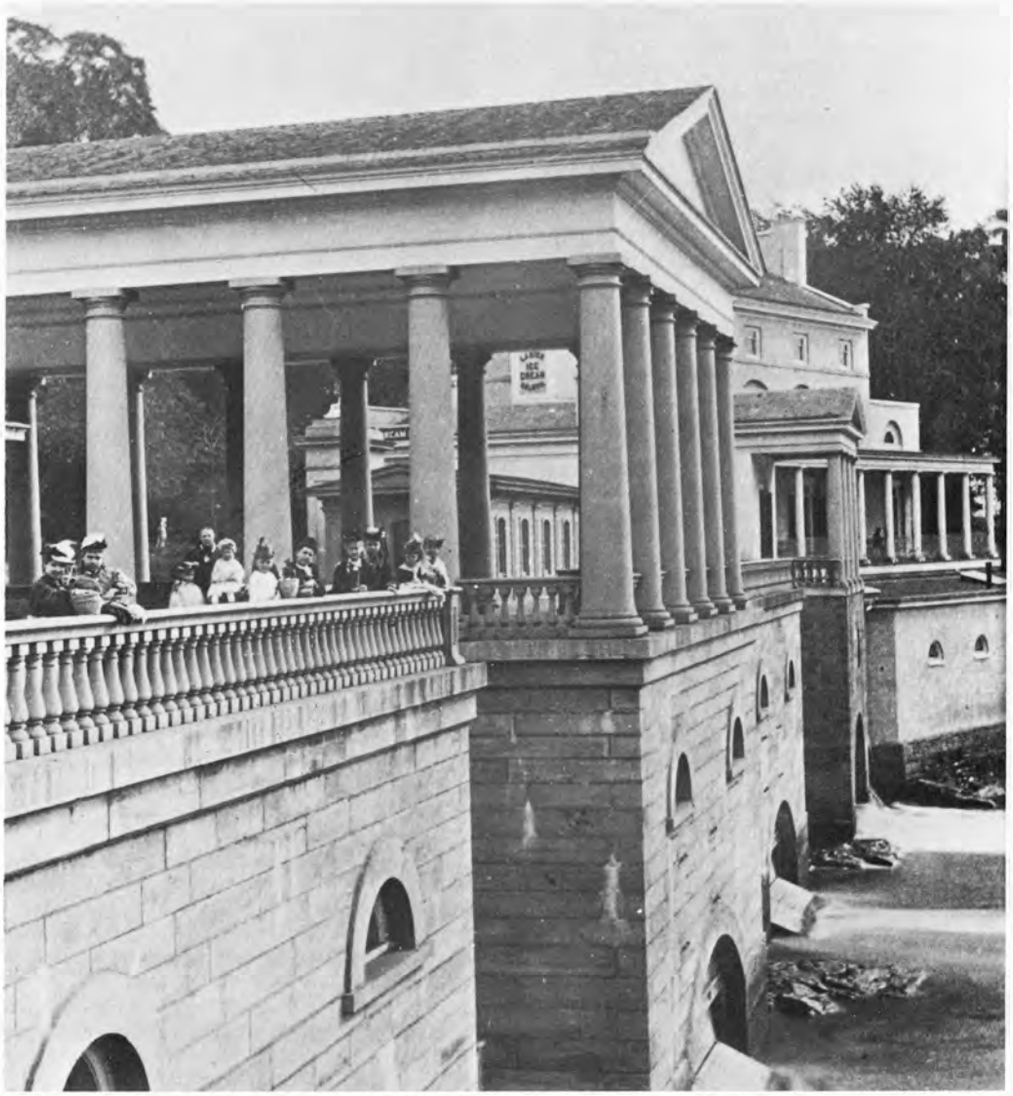


*A group of school children visiting the Water Works during the early 1870's.*

## INSIDE PIPELINE

# AWARD CEREMONIES

*Commissioner Plonski and Managing Director White take time out of their busy schedules to congratulate these Employee Suggestion winners during a ceremony at ARA Tower.*

## Ideas Make Cent$

The Employee Suggestion Program certainly had an award winning year in 1989. The Committee gave its largest award ever, $1,600, to Armand DeGregoris for suggesting a more efficient and cost-effective way to drain detention basins at the off-site screening area at the sludge composting facility. Armand is a construction projects technician for Southwest Construction Abatement. His idea will save the Department an estimated annual savings of $16,000. This was Armand's second award; he received his first one in 1988.

The second runner up was Frank Shock who received $1,205 for finding ways to reduce airborne ash particles at the ash conveying system in the preliminary treatment building at the Sludge Processing and Distribution Center (SPDC). His suggestion resulted in less mechanical repairs. Frank is a treatment plant operator at SPDC.

Alex Dent received the next largest award during 1989 for recommending that openings below the screening conveyor belt be sealed to prevent trash from accidently falling to the screw conveyor area. Alex received $1,000 for his suggestion. He's a labor sub-crew chief at the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant.

Seventeen other employees received awards ranging between $50 and $450 for their suggestions adopted by the Employee Suggestion Committee. Two separate ceremonies were held this past year, one at the Northeast Plant and the other at ARA Tower to honor these employees.

## An Apple A Day

On Wednesday, October 25, a ceremony was held at the Sheraton Society Hill honoring 177 employees who qualified for the1988 Zero Sick Leave Awards. The employees enjoyed a sumptuous buffet breakfast and were presented "designer" watches with the Water Department's logo. Mayor Goode, just back from being hospitalized, and Commissioner Plonski were there to congratulate the employees for their perfect attendance. Afterwards, members of the Philadelphia Ship Preservation Guild provided tours of the Gazela Philadelphia, located at Penn's Landing. Hats off to William Wankoff for planning another superb day for these employees!

*Employees enjoy the breakfast during the Zero Sick Leave Ceremony.*

*Giovanni Petri, Frank Fortino, Rich Cambria and Rich Mulcahy tour the Gazela Philadelphia after the Zero Sick Leave Ceremony.*

## Playing It Safe Has Its Rewards

*by Thomas Jeffreys*

On Friday, June 30, the Safety Office held its Safety Recognition Awards Luncheon. To determine who was eligible for the awards, a list was established of all permanent, full-time personnel employed from January to December 1988 who were not injured on duty or on leave of absence. From this list of more than 1,500 employees, 30 were selected by matching them with a list of randomly generated numbers. On the day of the awards luncheon, the names of these 30 employees were placed in a hat. A name and savings bond were drawn by the participants at the luncheon until all names were matched with each savings bond.

The winners included Brian Mohl, Construction, Southeast Abatement ($1,000); Idell Dearry, Rodent Control ($500); Louis Ceci, Water Analysis and Robert Harrington, Building Maintenance ($200 each). Six employees received $100 each and the remaining 20 employees won $50 each. Playing it safe is certainly well worth the effort!

## *Fall Food Drive*

Carl Shaw would like to thank all those employees who contributed food and money during the Water Department's Fall Food Drive. Carl, a sewer maintenance inspector, organized the food drive on behalf of children living in shelters. This effort was part of a national food drive coordinated by the Philadelphia Food Bank which distributed the food to homeless children. Special thanks go to Faulkner Edmunds, Chief of Collector Systems Support, for his generous support of this drive and to the Inlet Cleaning and Sewer Maintenance Units for picking up the food from different locations throughout the Department.

*Captain Sewer gets his blood pressure checked before donating blood at the Red Cross.*

# Don't Wait! Donate!

"It's my blood and I'm going to keep it." This was the attitude once held by Tara Pope, Project Engineer for Planning and Engineering. Tara had a phobia about giving blood. In the past, she was underweight and never had to think about giving blood. When she hit the necessary pound mark for giving, she got scared.

Meanwhile, Red Cross was looking for a coordinator to help with blood drives at the Water Department. For a year, no one had held the post. No one wanted to either, at least not until Tara was asked.

Tara had reservations at first about being the coordinator but finally she relented by saying, "I'll do it as long as I don't have to give blood." Since then Tara has overcome her fears but she admits, "The first time I gave blood, I went with coworkers so I wouldn't 'chicken-out'." Now she describes giving blood as a worthwhile thing to do.

Tara found that many other people have the same fear of giving blood. However, she's quick to point out that the whole procedure takes less than 10 minutes. Others associate donating blood with the AIDS virus, yet there is a 100 percent guarantee that you can't get AIDS from giving blood.

If you are one of those people afraid of giving blood, stop and consider this. What would you do if you need or someone you know needs blood and there isn't enough? Don't wait until it's too late. Philadelphia area patients need over 1,700 pints daily. There's a 95 percent chance that all of us will need blood by age 72. Think about it.

Tara really enjoys serving as the Water Department's blood drive coordinator because she meets many employees that she doesn't usually have contact with. She serves as coordinator along with Kumar Kishinchand, General Manager of Planning and Engineering, Kay Keenze, Executive Assistant to the Water

*(continued on page 4)*

# SPORTS SNOOP

The illustrious staff of the"Pipeline" recently realized there was something missing from this fine publication, a sports column. After searching high and low for the most qualified expert, and failing to entice anyone else, they had to settle for yours truly, the Sports Snoop, to fill this enviable spot. The purpose of my mission is to go where no sportsperson has gone before to uncover truly unique and unusual stories about Water Department "athletes." So beware because you never know where or when the Sports Snoop will be on the lookout for a good story.

For those of you who may not know, the Philadelphia Municipal Employees Recreation Council (PMERC) sponsors a softball league from May through August. Teams participate from agencies throughout the City including Human Services, the Library, Prisons, Streets, the Youth Study Center and of course, Water. The games are played on weekdays, after work, on City fields and recreation centers around town. Last year 18 teams participated with the Water Department having four teams of its own.

The Design team is probably the most fundamentally sound, and why not, since they hone their hand and eye coordination with daily pinochle games and keep their legs in shape by constantly trying to avoid supervisors. The Baxter team, formed a few years ago, is continually improving, but if I may impose a bit of advice, guys, this isn't volleyball. You've got to catch the ball, not bat it back up into the air. The Water team (our original team) has employees from various fields including downtown office types (otherwise known as engineers), to laborers and treatment plant operators, and even technicians. You would think with this diverse talent they would be pretty competitive. But the Snooper thinks their problem is the same as most things in the Department: too many employees trying to do the same job. This was the first year for the fourth team, $H_2O$, which also includes employees from a variety of units throughout the Department. $H_2O$ is an offshoot of the Water Team, mainly because they take the game more seriously. Well, from what I understand, $H_2O$ might enjoy themselves and win a few more games on the field, but they can't approach the type of enjoyment the Water team has off the field after the games.

At the end of the season, three of the Department's teams made the playoffs. Need I tell you which team (Water) missed out. Well guys, better luck next year.

Special recognition goes to Design which won one of the four divisions with a 12-5 record. Last year, they missed winning their division by one game. But this year they clinched the title easily, finishing four games ahead of the second place Revenue team. Pitchers Jim Proctor (4-1) and Joe Trombetta (6-3), with relief work from Rich Marriott, kept the team playing in almost every game. An outstanding outfield led by slugger Tyrone Maillard and leading hitter Rich Cambria were complimented nicely by Steve Pomarico and George Bruchbocker. The infield led by shortstop Ernie Chieffo and third baseman Frank Hochmouth made big plays all year. Veterans Bill Wheeler, Bill Conches and Bob Belfie added the experience and hitting all winning teams need. John Augustine, George Krzeminski, Cliff Lahann, Steve Metzinger, Earl Paul and Kennedy Wilson gave fine efforts to guarantee Design's best year ever.

In the first round of the playoffs, Baxter was eliminated in two games (19-4, 20-5) by the hard hitting Youth Study Center (YSC) team. Also, $H_2O$ lost in two games (19-6, 11-17) to the steady Revenue team. Design, which received a bye in the first round, took on YSC in the second round. YSC won the first game (5-3), with Design unable to get the key hit with runners on base. YSC took the second game also (4-0), with Design not getting many hits at all. At the end of the season, the Department of Streets took the championship. Congratulations are in order for all of the softball participants.

If you know of any sports activities with an eyecatching story, drop a line to the Snooper in care of the "Pipeline." In the meantime I'll be out there snooping around, looking for the weird, the unique, the extraordinaire! I shouldn't have to look too far!

### *MUNICIPAL SOCCER LEAGUE*

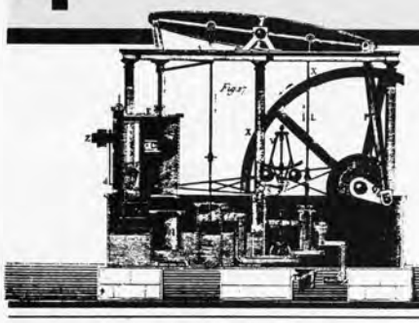
The Snooper has learned that Lenny Rustam of the Construction Unit is trying to form a municipal soccer league to promote friendly competition between various City agencies.

"Soccer is an excellent team sport which has been growing in popularity in recent years in the U.S. The City of Brotherly Love is being considered as one of the few American cities to host some of the international games in the upcoming World Soccer Cup tournament. Now is the perfect time to start a municipal league," remarked Lenny. If any employees are interested in playing, you can call Lenny at 53-6352 (day) or 473-8906 (evening).

### *VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE*

The Water Department's volleyball teams meet on Fridays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 at Plaisted Hall located at Kelly and Aquarium Drives near Boat House Row. Here's the remaining 1989-1990 schedule if you're interested in coming out to cheer the teams on to victory:

| | |
|---|---|
| *FEBRUARY 2* | Southeast Construction vs. Southwest<br>Northeast vs. BLS |
| *FEBRUARY 9* | Design vs. Baxter<br>Planning & Research vs. Sludge |
| *FEBRUARY 16* | Northeast vs. Southwest<br>Southeast Construction vs. BLS |
| *FEBRUARY 23* | Planning & Research vs. Northeast<br>Design vs. Southeast Construction |
| *MARCH 2* | BLS vs. Sludge<br>Southwest vs. Baxter |
| *MARCH 9* | Southeast Construction vs. Baxter<br>Northeast vs. Southwest |
| *MARCH 15* | Design vs. Sludge<br>Planning & Research vs. BLS |
| *MARCH 22* | SEMI-FINALS |
| *MARCH 29* | FINALS |



# WHAT'S PUMPING

Over 900 people attended the Water Quality Technology Conference held in Philadelphia at the Adam's Mark Hotel, November 12-14. The Conference, sponsored by the American Water Works Association, provided water quality professionals throughout the country an opportunity to learn state-of-the-art water analysis and treatment techniques. Gary Burlingame of the Bureau of Laboratory Services (BLS) presented two papers, "History of Taste and Odor: The Philadelphia Story" and "Flavor Profile Analysis of the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers." Joanne Dahme of the Public Relations Unit and Irene Taylor of BLS assisted Gary in preparing these papers. Conference attendees also visited the Belmont and Baxter Water Treatment Plants for tours and viewed exhibits on watershed protection in Fairmount Park, corrosion control, taste and odor profiles, cross connections, the lead home study, water main ring tests, powdered activated carbon removal of geosmin, and Industrial Waste's spill response equipment.

Several other Water Department employees were also busy presenting papers during the 43rd National Preservation Conference this past October. The conference, conducted by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, was held in Philadelphia. The conference's theme, "Look Homeward America, Look to Philadelphia," served to highlight how the City's historical treasures can be successfully used in its future development. Joan B. Fredette, General Manager of the Public Affairs Division, spoke about the Water Department's role in the restoration of the Fairmount Water Works, while Ed Grusheski, Director of the Water Work's Center, described the historic resources of the Water Department and how these can be used for public education programs. Drew Brown, Manager of Public Education, guided the preservationists through the Water Works explaining the Department's plans for the creation of the Center, an educational facility celebrating water. Over 600 preservationists were in town for the conference.

## Has Anybody Seen My Pet Rock?

If any of you are missing some of your prized possessions to your Pet Rock collection, you may want to check the gardens at the Belmont Water Treatment Plant. The Belmont Garden Committee has designed a beautiful rock garden located at the entrance of the Plant.


*Committee members include from right to left: John Zimmer, Electrical Foreman; Bee Malachi, Storeskeeper; Bob McDermott, Treatment Plant Operator II; Bill Green, Labor Foreman and Susie Jackson, Custodian.*

## Up, Up and Away

During the past year, major improvements were made to the clarifiers of the four sedimentation basins at the Baxter Water Treatment Plant. Most of the clarifiers' existing center drive mechanisms were replaced, except for the bridges which were reused. A helicopter, which eliminated the time-consuming and costly construction of scaffolds, was used to remove and install the clarifiers on three of the basins. The work was performed by a general mechanical contractor. To ensure that the Baxter Plant continued to provide its vital water supply to the community, only one clarifier could be out of service at a time.

## Nice Work, Guys

While the work on the clarifiers at Baxter was being finalized, our own employees were just beginning renovations to one of the flocculator basins at the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant. To renovate the basin, the employees had to demolish the existing baffle walls, shafts and paddles which were installed during the basin's original construction over 30 years ago. They then duplicated the construction of the original design using cypress boards for the baffle walls. Cypress, although expensive, is extremely durable under water. The employees completed the renovations in less than four months and saved the City more than $100,000 by performing the work in-house.

### Don't Wait! Donate!

*(continued from page 3)*

Commissioner and Commissioner John Plonski. Together, they plan three blood drives a year. In addition, eighty blood drive captains help them recruit new and old donors throughout the Department.

Tara reminds us, "People are usually too busy during the holidays to donate blood. Unfortunately with everyone traveling to visit family and friends, there are a lot of car accidents when blood supplies are low. Donating blood will ensure there is enough blood available when it's needed. Put donating blood at the top of your New Year's resolution list."

## Spotlight

*Arnie Segal at work as the Department's Training and Development Officer.*

# Creativity Knows No Limitations

For some, creating art is a craft or profession that comes fairly easy. For others though, it is a struggle to overcome a disability that might become a barrier to their happiness or livelihood. Disabilities don't stop every artist, especially those involved in NUVISIONS for Disabled Artists, Inc. NUVISIONS is a non-profit organization that was begun in 1984 by Kaye Schonbach, a portrait artist who was diagnosed as having multiple sclerosis.

Kaye created this organization to enable its members to become self-sufficient artists and to serve as a support group for them. It is the only organization of its type in the country. Currently there are 70 members (both disabled and able-bodied people) in the organization. Arnie Segal, Training and Development Officer, is one of those members.

Arnie has been in NUVISIONS for four years. His art medium is sculpture, which he proclaims he's been doing since kindergarten. Arnie likes sculpture because of its three dimensional scope. "It's something I've always been interested in," he said. "It's fun and relaxing. It's an opportunity to do a different type of creativity than being the training and development officer." Arnie gets his ideas for sculptures usually while driving to work in the morning. His current sculptures include a statue of Moses and a woman whose face opens up to reveal various mechanisms inside: a lightbulb and a clock radio which revolve and work on kinetic energy. Many of them are realistic. "You have to be realistic to work for the City of Philadelphia," he said.

NUVISIONS sponsors six art exhibitions a year at various art galleries around the Delaware Valley. Arnie usually participates in three or four of them. He also participates in the annual art show that the City of Philadelphia sponsors where he won first prize for one of his sculptures. All of Arnie's sculptures are for sale. "It's very rewarding when someone buys your sculptures," he said. "In a sense, it's immortality. A part of your personality and a way of looking at life will remain long after you are gone."

Arnie doesn't really know how long a piece of sculpture takes him to complete. There are basically two reasons for this. First of all, he normally works on more than one piece at a time so he can't really judge the time element involved. Secondly, he only works when the "mood hits" him. When asked what his favorite sculpture is he answered, "It's always the one I'm working on." Arnie admits that he prefers doing sculptures of people rather than inanimate objects.

If anyone is interested in becoming a member of NUVISIONS or volunteering your time, please contact Arnie Segal at 53-6121. There is always a need for planning art exhibits, transporting art work and helping with mailings.

NUVISIONS can make use of everyone's skills and abilities. As a volunteer, you can be involved in something very creative as well as helping a worthwhile cause.

*"Beyond the Facade" is one of many sculptures Arnie has designed. This particular piece has kinetic mechanisms allowing the portion behind the face to revolve.*

Officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the states of Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania visited Philadelphia in May to sign an agreement developing a comprehensive conservation and management plan for the Delaware Estuary. The Estuary was one of 12 selected nationally by EPA to receive aid for improvement of its water quality and living resources. Recognizing the significance that this cooperative effort will have on the Estuary's future, the Water Department lent its support by inviting the officials to sign the agreement at Penn's Landing on the Delaware. Mayor Goode was on hand to welcome them and afterwards, they toured the Estuary, courtesy of the tall ship, Gazela Philadelphia.

## View From The Pavilion *(continued from page 1)*

spots. It was no surprise that visitors continued to flock to the site to view the massive turbines which replaced the Waterwheels mid-century.

When Torresdale (Baxter) Plant opened in 1909, the Fairmount Water Works was taken out of service by the Water Department. The buildings, however, continued to serve the public by housing one of the nation's largest aquariums which opened in 1911. With the closing of the aquarium in 1962, the Water Works entered a period of deterioration and disuse.

Today there is a renewed interest in Philadelphia's historic Water Works. Since 1984, a major restoration effort has been underway. Exciting plans call for the development of a restaurant and the Water Works Center which will attract visitors once again to this still beautiful oasis on the Schuylkill.

As it has in the past, the Philadelphia Water Department is encouraging visitors to enjoy the Fairmount Water Works experience. The Public Affairs Division has recently produced a 19th century photo album of the Water Works, and a slide presentation narrated by the Department's own Barry Brait. Both are available for the public's enjoyment at the Water Works Visitors Center where the Philadelphia Ranger Corps will offer tours of the facility this spring, on Saturday and Sunday at 12, 3, 4 and 5pm.

You have an open invitation to visit Fairmount Water Works. And while you're there: enjoy the view from the Pavilion!


*Submitted by Harold Snow of Central Stores*

# MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

**BY JOHN PLONSKI**

I am pleased to have this opportunity to share with you my thoughts about a program in which I have been active for the last several months. In fact, its very existence depends on the morale and enthusiasm of employees of the Water Department and other City agencies.

Not long after being named Water Commissioner, I was asked to serve as the chairperson of the two-year Philadelphia Municipal Blood Donor Campaign. My primary responsibility is to solicit the active participation of other agency heads in their campaigns, with our goal being a significant increase in the number of blood donations by City employees. I accepted, knowing that my efforts would be guided and supported by Red Cross specialists; what I did not expect was the very rewarding sense of partnership which grew from this endeavor.

Although I have long been a regular blood donor, my real education about donor services started with the chairmanship. I have learned that our municipal efforts are part of a regional program which includes corporate, educational, religious, state and federal government campaigns. Now, when I read or hear blood supplies are low, I realize that it may be due to an unusually high number of major operations and organ transplants performed at Philadelphia's many prestigious hospitals. I have learned that one unit of blood can be made into five components which can then be used by five individuals. For the first time, I have heard a surgeon describe how his work would be impossible if it were not for this gift of life from strangers. I listened to a young mother express what donor services meant in her fight against a life-threatening disease.

I have since gained an even greater degree of understanding and appreciation for the importance of the contribution by those of you who are past and current donors, solicitors and other support givers. I applaud your enthusiasm and urge you to take a justifiably proud view of your participation. Please accept a "thank you" from me for your generosity.

Now there is just enough space left for a small commercial! The number of blood donations traditionally drops dramatically during the holidays. So, please remember the current Red Cross slogan: "Don't run on empty. Give blood."

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Anthony Ricciardi, Construction Projects Technician II, who received a B.S. in Construction Management in June. Anthony attended night classes at Drexel University.

Congratulations to Lynda Robinson, Load Control, who received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Antioch University on June 18.

Ernest Pollard, a Sewer Maintenance Inspector with Inlet Cleaning, may have found his ticket to future Philadelphia 76ers games... his son Ernest Pollard, Jr. Ernest, a student at Temple University, has played forward for Temple for the past several years. He plans to become a professional player hopefully for the 76ers or the Boston Celtics. Ernest Jr. is a Recreation Instruction major at Temple and will graduate in 1991. He started playing basketball when he was 13 years old and has won awards including the Marward Award and McDonald's All American.

The country of the People's Republic of China has been in the news a lot lately because of the student protests. Before all this violence erupted, Ray Roedell, Water Department Librarian, was there as part of a "People to People International" Conference on medical librarianship. "People to People International" is a private, not-for-profit corporation whose basic tenet is "that personal communication and mutual respect among men and women of different cultures can be powerful forces for peace." Ray participated in the conference from April 14 to April 30, 1989. He was invited because of his background in library science, which includes working in the Health Sciences Library of the Presbyterian Medical Center. While in China Ray presented a paper, The Role of the National Library of Medicine in the Biomedical Information System which stressed resource sharing. It will be published later this year as part of a collection of People to People delegates' papers.

John Donnelly and John Getty, Physical Testing Technicians at Materials Testing Laboratory, were saluted by Mayor W.Wilson Goode as City Employees of the Month last March.

John Durrant, Chief of the Materials Testing Laboratory, has been elected to Director, District 4 of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). John has served in a number of leadership capacities with the Society and was a recipient of ASCE's Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award for Professional Achievement.

## WEDDING BELLS

James Aleo of Administration to Frances Andracchio on June 4.

Thomas Varughese, Load Control, to Jothy Susanna Mathai on June 15.

Kevin Kelly, Southeast, on July 22.

## BIRTHS

- Jacqueline Evans, Inlet Cleaning, a boy, Carl Aaron, 7 lbs., 15 oz., on February 24.
- Haywood Austin, recently retired from Load Control, and his wife, Gloria, a granddaughter, Davita, on April 17.
- Rufus Ejimonyeugwo, Load Control, and his wife, Gladys, a girl, Ezinma Vivian, 6 lbs., 9 oz., on May 18.
- Shirlean Sawyer of Word Processing-IBM, a girl, Sherron Andrea, 7 lbs., 2 oz., on May 25.
- James Golembeski, Sludge Processing and Distribution Center, and his wife, Michelle, a girl, Rebecca Rose, 8 lbs., 4 oz., on June 5.
- Raju Vazheparambil, Southwest Plant Expansion Program, a boy, Roshn, 8 lbs., on June 13.
- Kyle Douglass, Load Control, and his wife, Mary Anne, a boy, Kyle, 7 lbs., 10 1/2 oz., on June 18.
- Dwayne Shirley, Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant, a girl, Lynn Elaine, 7 lbs., 4 oz., on June 19.
- Mike Cunningham, Design, and his wife, Claudia, a boy, Francis Edward, 6 lbs., 14 oz., on June 23.
- Joseph Kehoe, Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant, and his wife, Jean, a girl, Christy Lynn, 9 lbs., 5 oz., on July 6.
- Kathy Sipes, Design, a girl, Sara Elizabeth, 7 lbs., 4 3/4 oz., on July 18.
- Yasmeen MacIntosh, Water Information Center, and her husband, Charles, a girl, Sarah Raffee, 6 lbs., 12 oz., on August 15.
- Carla Gonsiewski, Water Information Center, and Robert Gonsiewski, Industrial Waste, a boy, Adam Robert, 7 lbs., on October 9.

# Letters from our Customers

Dear Mr. Poaches:

I'm writing this letter just to tell you that a very nice young man came to check our water meters. He was very polite and respectable, many young people today don't have it. I am a senior citizen and partially handicapped. I appreciated his thoughtfulness. I asked your name so I could write and tell you. Please tell him I wrote.
Mrs. E.S.M.
Cantrell Street, Phila.

P.S. When I told my friend and neighbor, she agreed with me also. Thought you would like to know.

*The meter repair employee is John Powell.*

To Philadelphia Water Department Manager:

A Water Department representative called on May 24th to fix a leak in the pipe near my water meter. I was very pleased at the courteous way he went about his job. It was a pleasure to do business with the Water Department when you have such a courteous worker. Thank you for a job well done. The representative's name is Danny Hazley. He did a fine job.
Mrs. Millie K.
Emerson St., Phila.

*Daniel Hazley works at the Meter Shop.*

Dear Sir:

I just had a new meter installed by one of the most polite and courteous people I have encountered for quite some time. His name is Mr. David White. He deserves a pat on the back for his services.
Ms. Dorothy G.
W. Hagert Street

*Mr. White is a meter repairman.*

Dear Captain Sewer:

On behalf of the Read Together Coalition I wish to thank you for participating in "Love is Reading Together Week" last Thursday at the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant. Your willingness to read to the children meant a great deal to them and to their teacher.

Your skill as a reader to young people will be put to use again, I hope. You did not just read to them, you included them in what you were doing as you took them on that special trip.

As the Channel 10 coverage indicated, you and the children were newsworthy. Please accept my personal thanks for your involvement last week.
Yours truly,
Cynthia Kishinchand
Secretary, Reading Together Coalition
Administrative Assistant, Friends of the Free Library of Philadelphia

On Tuesday, August 1, Supervisor David Gauer of the Meter Shop received a telephone call from former City Commissioner, Maurice Osser, who resides on Flagstaff Road. Mr. Osser called to inform us of Mr. Robert Meade's efficient, polite and competent work. We commend Mr. Meade for a job well done.

*Submitted by Joseph G. McAdams, Acting Group Leader*

Dear Commissioner:

Please pass on to all concerned our thanks for the clothing that has been donated by the employees of the Water Department .

This is not the first time that we have expressed our gratitude to this group. It speaks well of them when their concern for the poor and homeless is so evident.

At present, we are providing an average of 600 hot, complete meals daily to those who come to us for assistance. In June we gave 15,638 articles of clothing to the needy. Our shelter, where a homeless man can get a night's sleep in a clean bed in safe surroundings, is always filled to capacity.

We serve God in the person of the poor and for this privilege we are most grateful to the men and women of the Water Department and other caring people whose kindness enables us to continue our mission.
Very truly yours,
Brother Malachy, Director
St. John's Hospice for Men

Dear Commissioner Plonski:

Southern Home Services wants to thank you for your generous gift of clothing. Our agency served approximately 600 hundred families and children as well as homeless individuals. Food and clothing are of the utmost need given the fact that our clients are very poor. I would appreciate if you extended our thanks to the Water Department workers of Philadelphia on behalf of our agency and our clients.
Thanks sincerely,
Margarita Bouos
Community Liaison

Dear Mr. Healey:

Thank you for all the time you spent with us working through the "mercury" problem at the Chelsea site in East Falls, especially on the day before your vacation!

The follow-up staff, especially Joe Morrow, was expeditious and thorough.

Without your input and help, we would not have been able to resolve this problem so quickly and in turn, prevented a very costly delay to the project.

Again, thank you for your time and help.
Sincerely,
Judy Feuerherm
Project Manager
Chelsea Historic Properties

*Joe Morrow is an Industrial Waste Control Technician Supervisor.*

Dear Mr. Clement:

On Monday, June 12, Mrs. Dorothy Ravitsky of W. Cheltenham Avenue called to express her appreciation for your prompt and courteous response to her complaint.

On behalf of Mrs. Ravitsky and the Water Department, I would also like to commend you for your dedication to duty. It has always been our belief that the Water Department has some of the finest employees in the City of Philadelphia and your efforts have helped to confirm this.

I would like to encourage you to continue your fine efforts in the performance of your duties and a copy of this letter will be included in your personnel file.
Sincerely yours,
Patrick Cairo
Deputy Water Commissioner
Operations

*Our courteous employee is James P. Clement of Sewer Maintenance.*

Dear Mr. Cairo:

I would like to commend two employees, Mr. Wyatt Barnes and Mr. Ronald Williams, of the Philadelphia Water Department.

On Saturday, February 25th, at approximately 1:30 in the afternoon, I accidentally dropped my wallet down a storm sewer drain at the corner of Ridge Avenue and Monastery Avenue in Roxborough. I was able to borrow a rake and was lying on the ground in my sport coat and tie trying to retrieve it when a woman stopped and said she worked for the Water Department. She suggested I call City Hall to get some help. I called from a nearby phone and within a half hour, Mr. Williams and Mr. Barnes drove up in a white City truck. They explained that this was a job for Sewer Maintenance and that they didn't have tools to reach down that far through what appeared to be at least two feet of standing water and trash. I continued to try and "solve my problem" and they left. But much to my surprise, they soon returned with the necessary tools and retrieved my wallet for me.

I truly appreciate their "over and above the call of duty" effort on my behalf. Too often we talk about all our complaints and problems and fail to talk about the positive and good things.

If there is some way you can commend their efforts on my behalf I would appreciate it. To think of all I would have had to do to cancel my credit cards and driver's license, as well as the loss of cash and other valuable cards, makes me truly appreciate such an effort.

I told my congregation this story on Sunday morning and they, too, were very thankful for the help I received.
Sincerely,
Pastor Ned Flexer
The Roxborough Baptist Church

*Messers. Barnes and Williams work at Emergency Support Services*

# Water Department Highlights

Mayor W. Wilson Goode hosted a ceremony praising the cooperative spirit between Lower Southampton Township with wastewater treatment services by the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant. The agreement has generated $5.5 million in capital contributions for Philadelphia. James Palladino, Revenue Requirements and Rates Manager and Abby Pozelsky, Assistant City Solicitor, led the Water Department's team during the negotiations.


*Mayor Goode presents a Liberty Bell to the Chairman of Lower Southampton Township to seal the agreement between the two communities regarding waste-water services.*


*The 1989 Open House Committee poses outside SPDC*

*Joe Cerrone of Industrial Waste explains the emergency response equipment to visitors during the SPDC Open House.*

The Department officially named its two sludge barges during the 4th Annual Open House at the Sludge Processing and Distribution Center (SPDC) on Saturday, October 21. Commissioner Plonski's daughter, Kara Elizabeth, christened the barges, The Resource and The Recycler, during a ceremony held at the piers along the Schuylkill River. Phil Carey of Design submitted the winning names during a Name the Barges Contest. After the christening, Plant Manager Kate Ellis-Guest and SPDC staff gave tours of the facility while 20 other units manned exhibits demonstrating the services and operations provided by the Water Department.

For the second year in a row, the Water Department received the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's "Outstanding Exhibit" Award in the Philadelphia Flower Show's nonacademic educational category. The exhibit, "Keep Your Garden Colorful with Compost," was designed to show gardeners that using Philadelphia's composted sludge products, Earthlife and Phillymulch as soil conditioners, is a safe, practical way of recycling nature's own nutrients. Maureen Sullivan of the Public Education Unit, with the help of Bill Toffey from Sludge Management, coordinated the exhibit.

*Rose Sideman and Dorothy Himes, secretaries at Baxter Plant, greet a visitor during the 1989 Flower Show*

"Drinking Water: On Tap for the Future" was the theme for a poster contest sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for Drinking Water Week. The Water Department helped celebrate this week by hosting an awards luncheon at the Baxter Plant for 70 fifth and sixth graders who participated in the contest. Managing Director White and Commissioner Plonski were on hand to greet the children.

## WHAT'S HOT

Call the "Pipeline Hotline" at 592-4900 for coverage of newsworthy events happening throughout the Department. Events may include special activities featuring Water Department employees, or involving its services and operations. We're always looking for stories and photo opportunities for publication in the newsletter, so give us a call or write to us in care of the "Pipeline" Editor, Public Relations Unit, ARA Tower, 3rd Floor.

PIPELINE
NEWSLETTER

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# PIPELINE

*Philadelphia Water Department Newsletter* — *Volume 1, Issue 2 July, 1990*


## It's Only Words

"Just about any kind of typing service they could want, we can provide for them," quipped Rosemary Hogan, Manager of the Word Processing Unit. Rosemary explained that the Word Processing Unit was created more than five years ago to provide a variety of typing services for Water Department employees. As manager of the unit, Rosemary establishes the priority of the work submitted for typing, selects the best format for the work, and proofreads all typed copy ensuring that it is error free. Rosemary also supervises six Word Processing Specialists who work in ARA Tower and one who works at 29th and Cambria Streets.

The Word Processing Specialists not only prepare routine typing assignments, they also prepare legal briefs, speeches, newsletters and a variety of reports. The Specialists use CPT computers to complete the work. According to Joyce Schmidt, one of the Word Processing Specialists, "These computers are very easy to use. They can perform many functions including arithmetic calculations for accounting and statistical reports and they can alphabetize mailing lists."

The Word Processing Unit is also equipped with a Dial Dictation System which can be accessed by using any phone at any location, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Although many employees do not take advantage of the dictation system, it is a great way to catch up on memo writing and it is easy to use. Gene Gruber, Chief of Sludge Management, is a frequent user of the dictation system, "I always use the dictation system. It's a great way to capture my thoughts in writing. I simply pick up the phone and start talking. Before I know it, I have a finished product. The Word Processing staff is superb. They go above and beyond their duties to help out. I can't emphasize enough how useful this system is. More employees should take advantage of it." To

*(Continued on page 2)*

*Joyce Schmidt, one of six workers in Word Processing, types a report using a CPT computer. The Word Processing Unit handles jobs for the entire Department.*

## Office Management

When we arrive for work each day, we automatically assume that the phones will ring, the offices will be cleaned, and the photocopiers will work when we need them. All too often, we take these things for granted, at least, until something goes wrong. Ensuring that we have the necessary services and supplies to complete our assignments is a huge task. Pearl Montgomery, Administrative Officer for the Department, is charged with this responsibility. Pearl, who has 30 years of service with the City of Philadelphia, assumed these responsibilities when the Water Department's offices moved to ARA Tower. "At first, the scope of this job was undefined. I was hired to make sure the move went smoothly and that everyone was settled in," remembers Pearl. Since then, her role has evolved into providing consistent office management services for the employees at ARA and, on occasion, employees at other Water Department facilities.

One of the first projects Pearl tackled was

*(Continued on page 2)*

## INSIDE PIPELINE

*Rosemary Hogan, Manager of the Word Processing Unit, demonstrates a new application while Shealynn Brown looks on.*

## It's Only Words

*(continued from page 1)*

learn how to use the system, ask Rosemary for a set of instructions.

A recent addition to the Word Processing Unit is the Ventura Desktop Publishing System. Rosemary Hogan, along with Word Processing Specialist Darlene Crawford, are learning how to use it. With the desktop publishing system, the Word Processing Unit will be able to produce professionally designed documents. "I'm looking forward to using desktop publishing because it has a lot of different print styles and page design capabilities. It lets me be creative. I can add pictures along with text," remarked Darlene.

"If these services aren't enough to help employees get their typing completed, there's always HPSLATE," reminds Rosemary. For those employees who have access to a Hewlett Packard (HP) terminal, the HP computer system can transfer a document entered into HPSLATE to the Word Processing Unit where a high quality, final document can be typed.

Although Rosemary and the Word Processing Specialists are kept quite busy drafting and revising the many projects that come their way, their combined experience and expertise are the key ingredients that help the rest of us meet deadlines and produce first class correspondence.

## Office Management

*(continued from page 1)*

centralizing the Department's telephone system. "We needed to bring continuity to the phone system. We kept adding new phone numbers to the system without checking to see if the existing lines and circuits, which are very expensive, were being fully utilized. Numbers were added on top of numbers," she discovered. Pearl is also working on improving the telephone system for the Customer Information Unit where all water and sewer complaints are reported. Currently, the Department has a lease agreement for the equipment but Pearl is investigating the possibility of purchasing a system that can provide statistics on call information.

Upgrading the Department's office automation capabilities is one of Pearl's priorities. She assisted in the selection of the Dial Dictation System which was installed in the Word Processing Unit. Unfortunately, many employees are afraid to use this system because they're not sure how it works. However Pearl points out, "The system is easy to use because it is voice activated. By using the Dial Dictation System, employees can improve their productivity and efficiency because it allows them time to catch up on other duties."

Pearl was also instrumental in purchasing FAX machines for the Department. Today, there are 13 FAX machines located at ARA Tower, all water treatment and water pollution control plants, as well as several other sites. Employees agree that FAX machines have made many jobs much simpler to complete. Jeanette Marsh-Battle, a personnel assistant, says the FAX machine is, "one of the greatest technological advances since the invention of the wheel! It helps me utilize an improved communication system. This is very important in my position. Added features, such as the receipts you receive after your information has been faxed, enable me to exert leverage when I'm told, 'Sorry, we never received it.'"

In addition to these services, the employees who work for Pearl are responsible for purchasing an array of office supplies and managing the Department's Mail Room. Every day the mail is picked up and delivered throughout the Water Department. Chris Lewis is the man who has been behind this process for almost a year. He is in charge of the entire mail system within the Water Department and also handles inter-office city mail.

Chris, who has a Bachelor's of Art Degree

*(Continued on page 7)*

*Sherman Harris and Chris Lewis sort the large volume of mail received in the Water Department's ARA Tower Mail Room.*

*Sherman and Chris prepare for the afternoon delivery of mail.*

*Armand Badolato of Distribution enjoying his work at 29th & Cambria.*

# Our Heros!

It was just another Wednesday morning for Armand Badolato as he waited for his crew at their usual meeting place, Broad Street and Lehigh Avenue. Much to his surprise, though, Armand was about to become a hero. "It all happened so fast. I was sitting in my vehicle when suddenly, a young woman came running toward me crying, 'I need help. I've been stabbed,' recalled Armand. Before he could learn more, the woman collapsed. Quickly, Armand opened her breathing passageways to stop the woman from choking. He then radioed the City Hall dispatcher, who immediately notified the Police. Once they arrived, the woman was transported to the hospital where she underwent emergency surgery. One of the nurses there remarked that Armand's quick thinking saved the woman's life.

Unfortunately, all this happened so fast that Armand never found out the young woman's name.

Armand is a Water Distribution Supervisor II. He began his employment with the Department 13 years ago as a water distribution repairman. He then became a Foreman and Supervisor I.

Congratulations Armand! We're proud of you.

*Thanks to Norman Weintraub for this tip!*

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These days, City employees seem to get nothing but negative publicity. It feels good to report some positive news for a change. On Saturday, December 30, while working in West Philadelphia, Water Meter Service Worker Robert Fassel came across a possible life or death situation.

While changing a frozen water meter in a basement, he noticed a commotion coming from the kitchen. After checking to see what was happening, Mr. Fassel found a young girl choking. After performing the Heimlich Maneuver, he was able to dislodge a piece of bread and restore breathing to the young girl.

Congratulations go to Mr. Fassel of the Meter Shop for a job well done!

*Submitted by Joseph G. McAdams, Group Leader, Meter Shop.*

# SPORTS SNOOP

## BOWLING FOR DOLLARS

Yours truly has been asked to make the following announcement to our beloved readers. Some hardy souls have come up with the idea to form a Department Bowling League next season. Most likely, play would be on a week night, from September to May. So why don't all you keglers out there who are interested in joining the league, drop a line to the editors with your name and phone number. Someone will contact you with more information.

## IT'S A HIT!

The Snooper has just learned that the Philadelphia Municipal Employees Recreation Council has been looking for new players for its 1990 Softball League. Since the Snooper received this info a bit late, the League may not be admitting new teams at this time. However, they may still need some new players for existing teams.

Games are played after work, one or two nights a week. Practice begins in April, the season starts in May and ends in July. You'll get a chance to play against other City employees. There are playoff games, trophies, an all-star game and a league banquet.

If you're interested in playing, The Snooper will try to use some influence to get you on a team. In the meantime, call George Krzeminski at 592-6314.

Look out, though, folks! Another one of The Snooper's spies (they're everywhere) caught some Southwest employees practicing their swings during lunch break. My sources say, that even though this is a new team, they look like good competition for the rest of the teams.

## COACH

The Snooper relies heavily upon his network of snitches to scan the depths of the Water Department uncovering sports stories worthy of this fine publication. One snitch, in particular, discovered such a story. One of our employees at Southwest spends some of his free time teaching sports to others. The employee – James Harrigan, Stores Supervisor. His story – coaching volleyball at local high schools and colleges. As they say Jim, those who can't play, coach!

So, The Snooper decided to truck on down to the far reaches of the city to check this story out first hand. Upon entering the Southwest Plant, The Snooper was directed to the Storeroom, where I had this eerie feeling that I was on the set of TAXI, the television series. Spread around the room were all the mechanics, electricians and technicians. On one side of the room, behind this cage with all the goodies, were the Storeroom employees, gleefully surveying their domain, just like Louie DiPalma. It's frightening to think that one or two employees can control the distribution of equipment and supplies essential to the successful operation of the Plant. These are the people with the real power.

Well, back to my story. Jim started working at Southwest as a Stores Handler in 1984. He was promoted within a year to Stores Worker at the Northeast Plant (you call this a promotion?) and later at Southeast. In 1988, Jim was appointed to Stores Supervisor at the Southwest Storeroom (this guy sure gets around) where he is responsible for the inventory and distribution of 4,400 plus items. In addition to his regular job duties, Jim is a CPR instructor for the Water Department.

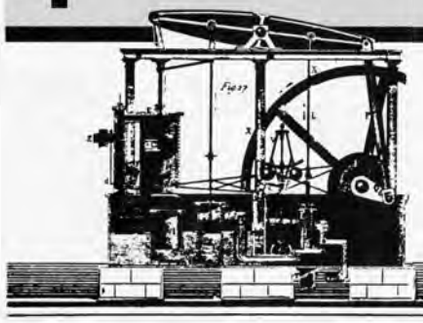
And now for the sports...Jim has been active as a volleyball player since 1974. For those of us who are unfamiliar with the game, Jim explained that it is played with six players per team. Each team can only score points while serving. Teams are allowed no more than three hits to get the ball over the net. "There are intricate strategies involved in using these three hits to set up and spike the ball. Trying to deceive your opponents and using your players wisely are some of the things a good volleyball coach must teach his or her players," remarked Jim. And, of course, Jim just happens to be such a coach.

*Jim Harrigan, Stores Supervisor at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant, checks the inventory shelves for supplies.*

*Jim reviews a delivery slip for supplies sent to the Southwest Storeroom to verify that the correct amount has been delivered as ordered.*

Starting his volleyball coaching career as the Junior Varsity Coach at Little Flower High School for Girls in 1986, Jim soon moved up to Varsity Coach. He was also Assistant Coach for the Women's team at Immaculata College until 1988. Today, Jim is Varsity Coach for the Girl's team at Cardinal Dougherty High School and the Head Coach of both the Men's and Women's teams at Spring Garden College. And, just in case he gets bored, Jim plays in four volleyball leagues and two softball leagues. No wonder his girlfriend is unhappy, he's wiped out by the time he visits her.

But on a more serious note, The Snooper feels that Jim serves an important role in our community. He devotes his time and energy to our young people, instilling them with discipline, self-confidence and a sense of teamwork. Jim says, "Coaching is fun and enjoyable. I get great fulfillment and satisfaction when I'm coaching."



# WHAT'S PUMPING

## CAP

In an effort to reduce the burden of high water bills for low-income families, the Water Department sponsors a Conservation Assistance Program (CAP) to help these families reduce their water usage. The Public Affairs Division has designed a program that provides these families with household plumbing repair services and water conservation tips.

Since its inception in 1987, CAP has helped more than 4,000 families. A typical family saves an average of $50 a year on water bills after minor repairs have been made to running toilets, leaking pipes and dripping faucets. Even more money can be saved when conservation devices such as low-flow showerheads, toilet dams and faucet aerators are installed.

The CAP program is administered for the Water Department by Neighborhood Energy Centers (NECS) located throughout the city. The NECs are non-profit, community-based centers that specialize in residential energy conservation and weatherization repairs.

With the philosophy of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," the NECs help eligible low-income homeowners to conserve energy so they can save money on water, gas and electric bills. According to Kimlar Satterthwaite, Manager of the Department's Assistance Programs, "The NECs operate one of the most innovative conservation programs in the country. NECs are friendly oases to low-income families, helping them restore and maintain their quality of life."

To be eligible for the CAP program:

✓ you must be a homeowner of record

✓ your water service must be turned on

✓ your total water bill debts cannot be more than $2,000 (exceptions will be made if the homeowner has payment agreements with the Water Revenue Bureau.)

✓ your total household income cannot exceed 150% of the federal poverty guidelines

✓ your household plumbing repairs, if needed, must be minor. (Homeowners with houses that need major plumbing repairs will be referred to home repair programs sponsored by local or federal agencies.)

For more information about the Conservation Assistance Program, other home repair programs, and cash assistance grants to help lower utility bills, call Kimlar Satterthwaite at 1-53-6143.

If you know a family whose water or other utility service has been shut off or who is facing a possible shutoff notice, call Kimlar in the Public Affairs Division. He may have the answer.

## Hearts Of Gold

Once again, employees of the Water Department opened their hearts to those less fortunate by contributing to the 1990 Combined Campaign. This year's contributions totaled $132,600. In all, 1,410 employees donated. Deputy Commissioner Ronald L. Coy, Chairman of the Campaign, expressed these sentiments, "I would like to thank all of you for your participation and enthusiasm. We should take pride in what we have accomplished." Our employees' contributions put the City over its goal of $1.13 million.

## Another First

According to the Ductile Iron Pipe News (published by the Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association), a recent examination of a polyethylene-encased cast iron pipe installed in the Philadelphia Water Department's distribution system 30 years ago showed that the pipe was still in good condition. The 12 inch pipe, located at Essington Avenue, just north of 67th Street, is believed to be the first pipe of its type installed in an operating system. Although the pipe was installed in a landfill with soil conditions normally corrosive to iron pipe, its polyethylene encasement provided effective corrosion control.

*Thanks to Mike Pickel of Water Treatment for this tip.*

## Adult Refresher Courses

Employees at the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant are learning to prepare for Civil Service exams by taking Adult Refresher Courses in Math, English and Reading. The employees are learning to improve their skills with the help of tutors from Southwest Community Services. Ed Paterson, Larry Hoagland, Lou Milanese, Charlie Boyd, and Paul Franklin of the Southeast Training Committee came up with the idea and, with Connie Payne's help, were able to get the program started. Since the program is a voluntary one, the Training Committee is looking for dictionaries, thesauruses, blackboards and whiteboards to use. The Water Department is providing the employees with a place to meet, the Southeast Plant on Mondays and Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

## Office Paper Recycling At ARA

This past January, the Public Education Unit implemented a recycling program for employees located at ARA Tower to demonstrate the environmental consciousness of the Water Department. As part of the program, employees receive yellow folders which make it easy for them to recycle used paper. The folders list those paper products which can be recycled and those that can't. At the end of the work day, employees empty the contents of their folders into yellow and green milk crates located throughout the Water Department's offices in the ARA Tower. Once a week, the material is picked up by a recycling firm, Weston/Runde Recovery Systems Corporation, free of charge. Although official figures are not yet available, the Water Department estimates it will receive $15-25 per ton for the recycled paper. For more information about the program, call Maureen Sullivan at 1-53-6144.

# MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

**BY JOHN PLONSKI**

1990 Only half the year has come and gone, but already 1990 has had a profound impact on us. Why? In 1990 we united once again, as we did twenty years ago, to renew our commitment to clean up the Earth.

A lot of changes have taken place since the first Earth Day in 1970. Back then, most governments were not even interested in protecting the environment. However, the Earth Day '70 celebration changed all that and we now have a much better place to live. Today, we have regulatory agencies such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, as well as many local agencies which are actively involved in protecting the environment. The Water Department is such an agency. Although we have come a long way in cleaning up the Earth, we still have a long way to go. We must deal with old problems such as cleaning up our local rivers and streams and we are just recognizing the disasterous effects of our industrialized styles on the global environment.

Mayor W. Wilson Goode asked me to serve as Chairperson of the Citywide Earth Week '90 activities which were held last April. I accepted this challenge proudly and enthusiastically.

I called upon the Commissioners of other City agencies asking them to measure the impact of their programs on the environment. In particular, I asked them to look at ways to increase energy conservation, reduce fuel consumption and improve air quality.

In addition, I formed a committee of employees who coordinated the Water Department's Earth Week '90 activities. The Committee planned many exciting and educational events. Public tours were offered at the Department's water purification and water pollution control plants, the sludge recycling center, and the historic Fairmount Water Works. The Committee also developed environmental exhibits for the Earth Week activities and created a speakers' bureau which presented slide shows about the Water Department to school children throughout Philadelphia. Many of the activities were so successful they will become part of the Water Department's permanent environmental projects.

Now I am calling upon each of you, as Water Department employees, to take a look at how your own jobs help improve the environment. We need to take a fresh look at the role each one of us plays in improving the quality of life for the residents of Philadelphia. Each individual job plays an integral part whether it be cleaning inlets, removing pollutants from wastewater, resolving odor problems or providing drinking water. We need to understand the importance of the work we do each day and the positive affect it has on the environment. With this in mind, I hope you will renew your commitment to the environment and share with me the Water Department's vision of providing our families and our neighbors with "Clean Water for Life."


# BUILDING FOR A BETTER FUTURE

By now, most of you have probably heard about a new Committee, the Commissioner's Committee for Change (CCC), which was formed several months ago. The creation of CCC stems directly from your suggestions to Commissioner Plonski during his visits to Water Department facilities and from 360 employees who participated in the Managing Differences Workshops.

For those of you who have not yet participated in the Workshops, they were designed to encourage employees to look at ways of enhancing our work environment by sharing our own individual work experiences and problems. As a result of the candid remarks made by these employees, often during very intense and heated discussions, the Water Department now has a challenging human resources agenda to address. According to Commissioner Plonski, "Human resources issues are of such vital concern to our employees that I believed it would be best to form a committee–a committee of employees–who will craft an agenda of top priorities finding opportunities for improvement and developing strategies for change." Eighteen employees who completed the Workshops have agreed to serve on the Committee. This is our first progress report to you.

Although some of you may feel that CCC's progress has been slow, human resources' issues are never easy to resolve. During CCC's first several meetings, we wrestled with creating the best possible organizational structure for the Committee. We wanted to be sure that the concerns of all levels of employees would be represented. We also wanted to be sure that you, the employees, would feel comfortable dealing with at least some of the CCC members because it is important that you share your concerns with us.

With this in mind, we have chosen five top priorities that were recommended by those employees who completed the Managing Differences Workshops. The priorities are: recruitment and retention of employees, training and promotional advancement opportunities, employee morale, communications, racism and sexism. We believe these priorities reflect your major human resources concerns and we have formed several sub-committees to deal with them.

CCC members meet monthly, conducting meetings at different Water Department sites with the hope of learning more about the the Department's operations, and more importantly, to get to know you, our fellow coworkers. Once a month, two CCC representatives meet with the Commissioner providing him a progress report of our activities. Commissioner Plonski has also agreed to meet with the entire Committee four times a year.

It is CCC's desire to serve the employees of the Water Department, but this will not be possible without your input. We have provided a list of the CCC Members so you know how to contact us. We welcome your ideas and suggestions. We are striving for a more satisfying workplace, but we all need to be involved to really make it happen. Make the first step and contact a member soon. You'll find the members' list on page eight of this newsletter.

# *Let's Form a Committee*

*by The Unknown Columnist*

I'd like to talk about something that has been going around the Department lately. No, it's not sludge piles or water main breaks. It's committees. There are a lot of them. If you're like me, you probably find it difficult to keep track of them. There's the Commissioner's Financial Advisory Committee (C-FAC), the Chlorine Risk Assessment Committee (CRAC), and committees to look at corrosion control, sludge handling, odor control, safety issues, ozone, employee suggestions, employee special events, and just about anything else you can think of.

Why are there so many committees and what do they do? Well, let's first explain what a committee is. A committee is a group of employees from various units who get together to solve a problem. In the old days, we called these meetings, but then, what did we know? Committees sometimes solve the problem and sometimes they don't. Who is on the committee is very important. It's vital to have a cross-section of employees who are affected by the problem. This way, these employees can mutually find a solution that will be satisfactory to all involved.

Why all this interest in committees? Well, I recently read a letter announcing a new committee, the Commissioner's Committee for Change. The first thing I noticed was its acronym, CCC. At first glance, it didn't seem very imaginative like C-FAC or CRAC, a personal favorite of mine. Apparently though, this is a hot acronym since there is already a Corrosion Control Committee who failed to lock up this acronym as their own. Sorry folks, you snooze, you lose. It makes you wonder what these people were doing at their first meeting anyhow. However, I do feel a little sorry for them since they have been organized longer. Maybe there's a committee to settle such disputes. A Commissioner's Committee for Committees. . . CC. . . oh, maybe that won't work after all.

Now, you might think I don't like committees. On the contrary, I am wholeheartedly behind this new CCC. If you haven't heard, it's a committee of regular Joes and Josephines from around the Department who will map out our human resources' needs for the future. There's something strangely appealing about this idea. I hope the group succeeds. Maybe this idea can be used elsewhere. How about a Commissioner's Committee of Operations (CCOP) or a Commissioner's Organization for Engineering and Design (COED)? Maybe there could even be a committee, dare I say it, to do our supervisors' jobs. . . an Employees' Committee for Change. There's only one problem. I don't want to be the one to break the news to the big guys, do you?

But I have an idea. Let's form a committee. Now, who do we appoint to this committee? Wait a minute. . . I've got it. . . we can form a search committee. . .


*Submitted by Harold Snow of Central Stores*

## Spotlight

*Kathy Roberts sings one for you.*

# Fame In The Philadelphia Water Department

The Philadelphia Water Department recognizes that all of its employees have special talents. There are those fellow employees who possess creative talents both on and off the job. Sometimes, these talents provide enjoyment and entertainment for the community. Kathy Roberts is one of those employees who has this special gift. Kathy, an Administrative Technician for the Water Department, began her job in May 1986 at Building Maintenance. She worked in this unit for two years and then moved to Sewer Maintenance. Some of the aspects of her job as Administrative Technician include: assisting in processing claims and preparing PAD's, which are necessary forms that must be completed in order to hire and promote employees.

Ms. Roberts is originally from Philadelphia. She and her husband, Thomas Howard, have two sons: Shawn, 10, and Myles, 7. Besides working for the Water Department, Ms. Roberts also has a career in entertainment. Kathy Roberts began singing on street corners with the other children from her neighborhood when she was a young adult. One child would take the lead while the rest would sing backup. From there, Ms. Roberts began singing with local bands and eventually sang background and duets with entertainer, Billy Paul of "Me and Mrs. Jones" fame. Kathy even auditioned with Stevie Wonder in Los Angeles, but decided to put her entertainment career on hold while she raised her family.

Six years ago, Kathy returned to the stage and is currently the lead vocalist for a fourteen piece band called D'NOVA ENSEMBLE. Ms. Roberts and her husband have also formed a duet, Ultra Sound. Ms. Roberts sings lead vocals while her husband plays the keyboard, a sequencer with drums, bass, and guitar sounds. Ultra Sound performs frequently at Chosen Image, and at a local Holiday Inn nightclub.

Kathy says, "People always ask me why I never had my picture taken with Stevie Wonder and why I never got his signature. I guess I was so excited about singing with him that I never really thought about it." Well, maybe we should learn from Kathy's mistakes and get her autograph now before she becomes famous. Then, we can say we knew Kathy when she was a Philadelphia Water Department employee!

## Office Management

*(continued from page 2)*

in International Relations, has always wanted to work for the city. He enjoys working in the Mail Room because he meets interesting people. "I'm learning a lot about City government by working in the Mail Room. I get the opportunity to meet people such as former Managing Director James Stanley White. I often joke about how many chief executive officers started in a mail room and worked their way up the corporate ladder. My aspirations are no less than theirs."

Making sure all of us have the supplies we need to do our jobs is often a challenge, but Pearl Montgomery and her staff have come to our rescue on many occasions. According to Pearl, "No two days are alike. There is always something new to do. Sometimes it is difficult, because I can't always provide the services that some employees want. I have to be able to say no in a way they will understand. Other than that, I really enjoy my job because I have the opportunity of working with many employees at all different levels."

*"Everyone say cheese!" Seated from left to right: Michael Nyszczota, Catherine Nyszczota, Laura Lozanoff, Joan Furness, Steve Furness, Richard Mulcahy, Marlene Mulcahy.*

# Construction's Christmas Party

*Bud and Bunnie Walsh celebrate the holidays with some delicious German food at the Christmas party.*

The Construction Unit held its first annual Christmas party for its employees on December 22, 1989. The event was held at Canstatter's-Volkkfest-Verein in Northeast Philadelphia. Approximately 130 employees attended and had a great time kicking up their heels on the dance floor. Bill Conners, Tom Brady, and Frank Fortino were in charge of organizing this Christmas fiesta. Dennis Maloy, who is a comedian on WSNI radio station, along with a D.J., provided entertainment for the guests. The Construction Unit plans a repeat performance of this event next year on December 15th. There will be either a D.J. or a live band and the party will be open to all employees. Printed announcements will be given out prior to the event. Get ready for another Christmas bash next year!

## VIEW from the PAVILION

# *History In Your Midst*

*by Ed Grusheski*

The Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) has many resources available to trace its own history and development from the small group formed in 1798, called the Joint Committee on Supplying the City with Water, to the large city agency that it is today. The maps, plans, diaries, records and photographs that detail this history can be found throughout the Department, scattered in various buildings and offices. In many cases, these materials are well-organized in accessible storage areas. However, hiding in the cracks and crevices of all Water Department buildings, from pumping stations to executive offices, are important documents, photographs and objects that fill in missing pieces of PWD's history.

The first phase of the Interpretive Center, sponsored by PWD and Fairmount Park, will be opening at the Fairmount Water Works this summer. As the Center's Director, I am interested in locating historic materials for use in exhibits which showcase PWD's role in the growth of Philadelphia. As it stands now, however, many of these materials are difficult to find, and often more difficult to use because of their poor condition. The Public Affairs Division is in the early stages of planning a central area to deposit the most fragile of these historic materials, so that they can be stored in an environment which ensures their survival. Researched and catalogued into a central system, these fragments of the Department's history will be easily found and information on them quickly retrieved. They will be available for use on a Department-wide basis and to outside researchers. For example, information on an historic sewer line could be quickly accessed and materials relating to it (plans, construction photographs, and inspectors' diaries) could be identified and located.

To accomplish these goals, I need your help. Have you seen anything in your office or building that would be of historic interest? Photographs of building construction and machinery? Old logbooks and ledgers? Sewer and pipeline designs? Architectural drawings? Old meters and fire hydrants? Please let me, Ed Grusheski, know what's out there. Call 592-4908 if you suspect there are such materials at your site.

In the near future, I will be offering a slide presentation on the types of historic materials, and make history come alive at the Water Works Interpretive Center.

I look forward to hearing from you!

*Lab technician sampling treated water, January 7, 1952. Can you identify the Water Department employee? Photograph found by Gary Burlingame, Project Biologist, at the Belmont Laboratory.*

# Water Department Highlights

## Need a General Education Diploma?


*by Harold Snow*

Don't be afraid to try. It's not like T.V. You will be in a classroom with adults, not kids.

In 1976, I dropped out of school. After 13 years of lies and excuses, I entered night classes in October of 1989. Within four months, I was ready to take the examination. I passed it!!

A General Education Diploma (G.E.D.) can be obtained through the School District's Adult Education Program.

Adult Basic Education (A.B.E.) and G.E.D. classes are held in 43 locations throughout the city. The day and evening classes are free.

At the time of testing, there is a $30 fee which is used to cover the costs of five tests.

For more information about these classes, call the School District of Philadelphia, Division of Adult Education at 299-3383 or 84.

Good luck!! It's easy!!

*Congratulations to Harold Snow who is an Equipment Operator at Central Stores.*

## "The Water Main"

Natalie Lessick, Jeanette Marsh-Battle and Arlynne Perley-Huebscher of the Personnel Unit have been hard at work developing a new monthly newsletter, "The Water Main." The newsletter will be devoted to personnel issues such as employee benefits, job opportunities, personnel policies and procedures, and training. Several issues have already been distributed. The editors welcome your comments and suggestions for future editions. You can write to them in care of the Personnel Unit, 5th Floor, ARA Tower. Your ideas count, so let them know what you would like to see included in "The Water Main."

## Bills, Bills, Bills

The Water Department's Government Affairs Unit has also started to publish a newsletter to inform employees of major new legislative and regulatory actions and to update them about ongoing bills and rulemakings at the local, state and federal level. The newsletter is mailed to Unit Managers and will be produced monthly. Your suggestions and comments are welcome. Call the Government Affairs Unit at 592-4905.

### BIRTHS

Paul McGeever, Building Maintenance, and his wife, Karen, twin boys, Paul John, 4 lbs., 6 oz., and Sean Michael, 3 lbs., 2 oz., on July 7, 1989.

Bill Toffey, Sludge Utilization, and his wife, Kathryn, a boy, David, 8 lbs., 2 oz., on August 17, 1989.

Dean Kaplan, Public Affairs, and his wife, Barbara, a girl, Arielle, 7 lbs., on January 5, 1990.

Kevin Kelly, Southeast, and his wife, Sue, a boy, Kyle Matthew, 8 lbs., 4 oz., on February 15.

Joseph G. McAdams, Meter Shop, a grandson, Nigel Emerson Allistair, 7 lbs., 5 oz., on February 24.

Henry Hinton, Survey, and his wife, Leticia, a girl, Laina, 6 lbs., 2 oz., on February 25.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Ellen Chambers, Departmental Procurement Specialist in the Finance Division, who received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania in August.

Congratulations to Rochelle Moore, a Clerk Stenographer II in Planning and Research, who received a B.S. in Information Systems from Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science in December. Rochelle has recently accepted a promotion with the City Planning Commission. Good luck, Rochelle!

### WEDDING BELLS

Dolores DiPoalo, Sludge Management, to Ralph McKnight on September 2.

Jawad Murtaja, Planning and Research, to Amany on September 25.

Rudolph Harvin, Southeast, to Carren, on November 4.

Michelle DeStefano, Finance, to Gerald Magallanes on February 17.

## WHAT' S HOT

Call the "Pipeline Hotline" at 592-4900 for coverage of newsworthy events happening throughout the Department. Events may include special activities featuring Water Department employees, or involving its services and operations. We're always looking for stories and photo opportunities for publication in the newsletter, so give us a call or write to us in care of the "Pipeline" Editor, Public Relations Unit, ARA Tower, 3rd Floor.

### C.C.C.
### Commissioner's Committee for Change Members List

*(See related story, page 6)*

| NAME & TITLE | UNIT & LOCATION | PHONE # |
|---|---|---|
| Xavier Moozhikkattu<br>Analytic Chemist II | Baxter Labs<br>9001 State Rd. | 335-8030 |
| James Downs<br>WPC Plant Oper. Supv. | Southeast WPCP<br>25 Pattison Ave. | 685-1713 |
| Richard Brinkos<br>Water Design Eng.<br>Asst. Manager | Design, ARA Tower,<br>2nd Floor | 592-6279 |
| Marilyn Kagan<br>Architect II | Design, ARA Tower,<br>2nd Floor | 592-6292 |
| George Fisher, Field<br>Representative Supervisor | Customer Services<br>29th & Cambria Sts. | 685-1653 |
| Joan Anne Przybylowicz<br>Admin. Technician | Public Relations<br>ARA Tower, 3rd Floor | 592-4900 |
| Kimlar Satterthwaite<br>Assistance Programs Mgr. | Assistance Programs<br>ARA Tower, 3rd Floor | 592-6143 |
| Ruth Scott<br>Water Distribution<br>Emergency Dispatcher | Sewer Maintenance<br>Fox & Abbottsford | 685-2027 |
| Carl Shaw, Sewer<br>Maintenance Inspector | Sewer Maintenance<br>Fox & Abbottsford | 685-2034 |
| Melvin T. Beale, Water<br>Distribution Supervisor | Distribution<br>29th & Cambria Sts. | 685-9645 |
| Nancy Carter<br>Clerk III | WPC Treatment Hdqtrs.<br>3901 Richmond St. | 685-1388 |
| Henry Hinton<br>Engineering Aide II | Survey<br>3585 Fox St. | 685-2124 |
| Debra McCarty<br>Sanitary Engineer III | Northeast WPCP<br>3901 Richmond St. | 685-1306 |
| Judi-Lynn Jones<br>Admin. Technician | Southwest WPCP<br>8200 Enterprise Ave. | 492-4014 |
| Robin Fego<br>Semi-skilled Laborer | Distribution<br>29th & Cambria Sts. | 685-9645 |
| Melita A. Juancito<br>Security Officer I | Northeast WPCP<br>3901 Richmond St. | 685-9611 |
| Calvin Felder, Concrete<br>Mobile Operator | Building Maintenance<br>29th & Cambria St. | 685-9610 |
| Myra Carter<br>Clerk Typist II | Personnel<br>ARA Tower, 5th. Floor | 592-6123 |
| Veda Peace<br>Engineering Aide I | Sludge Processing &<br>Distribution Center,<br>7800 Penrose Ferry Road | 492-4074 |

PIPELINE
NEWSLETTER

Pipeline is published by the
Public Affairs Division for
the employees of the Water Department.

Joan Anne Przybylowicz . . . . . Editor
Denise Civa . . . . . Staff Writer
Charity Woerthwein . . . . . .Staff Writer

# Pipeline

**Philadelphia Water Department Newsletter** **October, 1993**

## Aloha! Bonjour! Hola'!

Due to the City's financial situation during the past few years, the *Pipeline* was on hiatus. But it's back. It has a new look. And we're glad we have the chance to bring you information about PWD again.

Many thanks go to Deputy Commissioner Dick Roy, who helped us buy a new desk-top publishing system. We now produce the *Pipeline* in-house.

Of course, we couldn't do this without the fine expertise of Staci Woerle, our desktop publishing graphic designer, who transferred to Public Affairs from Water Revenue, and Bernie Rosenberg, our graphic artist and photographer, whose guidance and recommendations are greatly appreciated.

This month's *Pipeline* highlights some major accomplishments to date for 1993.

*Ciao, for now!*

Did you know it takes two employees three hours to install one compression clamp lock (CCL) on a hydrant? See more heat wave facts on the reverse side.

## Water Revenue Bureau Merges With PWD

This past year has seen many new changes at PWD. Most importantly, we welcomed aboard the Water Revenue Bureau (WRB). Before December 1992, WRB was a division of the City's Department of Revenue. To improve PWD's financial stability and enhance customer relations, the WRB was reorganized and placed administratively under the Water Department. City officials signed a memorandum of understanding outlining management responsibility and general direction of the new relationship. The spirit of the agreement is:

> *"To continue the trend toward more efficient and effective water revenue collection efforts and to better serve the citizens of Philadelphia . . . and . . . full integration of the City's water revenue collection efforts into the Water Department."*

More than 450 WRB employees are responsible for meter reading, billing and collecting revenues for the Water Department. During the past several months, many of us at PWD have had the opportunity to meet and work more closely with WRB employees. We look forward to continuing a warm, working relationship with these new members of PWD.

## Monthly Billing

One of the first goals accomplished through the merger of the Water Revenue Bureau and the Water Department was the startup of a monthly billing system in January. Both customers and PWD administrators welcomed the long-awaited system.

**Benefits of Monthly Billing:**

For our customers, monthly bills are more manageable and can be budgeted with other household expenses. A typical bill for a family of two is between $35-$45 a month.

For PWD, monthly bills improve our collection and enforcement efforts, help us to quickly identify and assist low-income customers who have difficulty paying their bills, and permit us to read meters more frequently. Three immediate benefits include:

- **a one-time cash advance which put off a water and sewer rate increase for six months;**
- **a reduction in the rate increase from 20% to 7%;**
- **a 25% improvement in "on-time" bill payments from customers.**

By using a monthly billing system, WRB can now bill tenants when water and sewer bills are delinquent. If a tenant pays the bill, he or she has the right to withhold the amount paid from his or her rent. If neither the property owner nor the tenant pays the bill, the Water Department can shut off water and sewer service. Due to a state law, PWD could not use this option with quarterly billing.

## New Meter Reading Hours

Another accomplishment of the merger is a new meter-reading schedule. WRB's meter readers now work Tuesday through Saturday to help our customers who can't be home during the ordinary workday. And from April through early October, a second shift of meter readers worked from noon to 8 PM to take advantage of longer days and daylight-savings time. WRB hopes to catch working customers at home to get true readings that will provide accurate water and sewer bills. Operations Manager Tom Fenner, Meter Reading Unit, reports that a preliminary review of the new hours shows a two-percent increase in productivity.

*Our roving photographer catches residential meter readers before they begin their work day.*

# PipelinePipelinePipeline

## When The Heat Is On!

Summer's over and most of us probably don't miss the heat! This July's temperatures were so unbearable many Philadelphians turned on the nearest fire hydrant to beat the heat. Illegally opened hydrants caused such a high water demand, our water treatment plants and pumping stations couldn't replenish water fast enough.

### 463 MGs fills Veteran Stadium

Office of the City Representative

*"We lost 15% to 20% of our water storage levels each day during the heat wave. At night, we only replenished 10%, compared to 95% under normal conditions."*

Load Control Acting Chief George Kunkel

### 1993 Heat Wave Facts

- ✓ 1,567 open hydrants were reported to Customer Information on July 8.
- ✓ Crews were increased from 8 to 32 to shut off hydrants.
- ✓ More than 100 million gallons a day (MGDs) of treated drinking water were wasted from open hydrants.
- ✓ More than 400 MGDs of water were delivered for 7 consecutive days.
- ✓ Day with highest total consumption of water: July 8 - 463 MGDs.

### Hydrant Facts

- ✓ 1 hydrant gushes 1,000 gallons of treated drinking water a minute.
- ✓ 3 billion gallons of treated drinking water are wasted each summer at a cost of $1 millon.
- ✓ 8,000 hydroshield locks & 4,500 compression clamp locks (CCLs) have been installed to date.
- ✓ 1 CCL costs $550, including labor to install it. Total cost to date for CCLs: $2.5 million.
- ✓ Cost to install a new hydrant: $2,500.

*"Hydrant abuse is a big expense to the City. Eighty percent of hydrant maintenance is needed because vandals tamper with hydrants."*

Hydrant Crew Chief JoseVargas

Office of the City Representative

**Jose Vargas looks on as a crew repairs a damaged hydrant**

## Letters From Our Customers

Dear Mr. McGovern:

We, the staff and management of A.J. Crumbley Enterprises, Inc. would like to commend your employee, **Ms. Gloria Hayes**, for her professional and courteous disposition. Please allow this letter to serve as a symbol of our appreciation for her pleasant and unusual handling of the difficult task she has.

If more employees had Ms. Hayes' demeanor, the department would be more warmly received.

Sincerely,

Charles C.
24th Street

## Spotlight

A special employee for a difficult job. That's Gloria Hayes. As a water distribution repairperson in Emergency Support Services' Shutoff Unit, it's Gloria's job to shut off water service to customers who have delinquent water and sewer bills. Handling frightened and irate customers who might have to live temporarily without water can be a trying experience. But Gloria performs this task like a diplomat.

*"I never really like shutting off someone's water but it has to be done. You can make the job what you want it to be, so I go out of my way to treat all my customers with respect. I try to get along with all of them."*

Gloria Hayes

## Living Lead Free

In 1992, the Department's Bureau of Laboratory Services (BLS) successfully conducted its Water Sampling Program for Lead in Drinking Water. BLS tested at-risk homes with water service lines made of lead or residential water-supply plumbing systems containing lead solder.

### Lead Sampling Program

| January to June | July to December |
|---|---|
| 162 homes tested | 143 homes tested |
| 25 homes or 15% exceeded federal action level of 15 parts per billion | 14 homes or 9.79% exceeded federal action level of 15 parts per billion |
| Mandatory public education campaign | Voluntary public education campaign |

Because of the high results during the first round of testing, we immediately began a public education campaign alerting customers to the potential of lead leaching into drinking water. Philadelphia was the **first** city in the country to begin an extensive lead public education campaign.

**Bunnies were used for the public education campaign to help us send a serious message in a non-threatening way.**

### Lead Public Education Campaign

500,000 Living Lead Free billstuffers for our customers;

50,000 Lead-Free Kids, Lead-Free Homes brochures for hospitals, day care centers, nurseries and schools; 5,000 additional brochures printed in Spanish;

News alerts for radio, TV and newspapers;

An exclusive story to the Philadelphia Daily News, whose readership most closely matches the demographics of the population at risk;

Ads for daily and community newspapers, reaching an estimated circulation of 4.6 million people;

Public service announcements (PSAs) for radio and TV. PWD received the Philadelphia Chapter of the Public Relations Society Pepperpot Award for Single Piece/Broadcast for our animated PSA for TV;

Employee appearances on WPHL-TV's "Delaware Valley Forum."

The Department is now implementing a unified corrosion control program, using zinc orthophosphate at our three water treatment plants. Zinc orthophosphate is added to water during the treatment process to minimize lead leaching into the water. BLS will conduct another round of lead sampling in January 1997 to determine the effectiveness of our corrosion control program.


# Pipeline

The Pipeline is published by the Public Affairs Division for employees of the Philadelphia Water Department.

Editor ..... Joan A. Przybylowicz
Desktop Publishing Graphic Designer ..... Staci D. Woerle
Graphic Artist/ Photographer ..... Bernie Rosenberg


PWD employees served as mentors during the Annual Science Fair at Bridesburg Elementary School.

January 1994

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 592-4900.

## Cross Connection Control Program a Success

During the past year, our Bureau of Laboratory Services began inspecting high-risk buildings as part of its Cross Connection Control Program. The program monitors buildings where cross connections can contaminate the buildings' private water supplies, as well as the public water supply system.

According to Jung Choi, acting manager of Scientific and Regulatory Affairs, a cross connection occurs when the pipe for a drinking water supply is joined improperly and illegally to pipes for other types of water supplies. The water from both systems can mix together when pressure problems, known as backflows, occur within the systems. Improper cross connections have been found in customer water service connections; home heating systems; boiler systems; and heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.

Photograph: Bernie Rosenberg

Jung reports that more than half of the 32 hospitals inspected did not have proper connections or had poorly designed connections. Many of their HVAC systems did not have adequate backflow devices to protect against severe chemical and biological contamination, as well as nosocomial infections from Pseudomonas, Mycobacterium or Legionella. Most of the hospitals were unaware that their private water supply systems, as well as the public water supply system, could be contaminated by improperly installed cross connections.

*Although the impact of our Cross Connection Control Program can not be measured, it has proven to be a tremendous public health benefit to the city.*

Jung Choi

**nosocomial** - an infection that is not present or one that has not incubated before admittance to a hospital. It generally occurs 72 hours after admittance. It is usually a patient disease but hospital personnel may also acquire it.

**Pseudomonas** - a genus of bacteria which comprises several hundred species, including many of uncertain status. The organisms are usually found in soil, water and decomposing matter.

**Mycobacterium** - a genus of bacteria which contains many species, including the highly pathogenic organisms that cause tuberculosis and leprosy.

**Legionella** - a genus of bacteria which causes a pneumonia-like disease in humans. They normally live in lakes, streams and moist soil, and are spread by air. The organisms have been frequently isolated from cooling-tower water, evaporative condensers, soil located on the bank of a natural watercourse (river, lake or tidewater), tap water, shower heads, and treated sewage.

## PWD Employee Receives "Friend of the River" Award

Ed Grusheski (center) gives a tour of the Interpretive Center at Fairmount Water Works. The wheel of the original 1851 Jonval Turbine is in the background.

Ed Grusheski, Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center Director, is the recipient of the Schuylkill River Greenway Association's "Friend of the River" award. The award is presented to an individual who or organization which has gone beyond the call of duty to promote and support the Schuylkill Greenway. The Association has honored Ed's efforts in developing the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center, a public education project of the Water Department. They have recognized Ed for providing tours of the historic Fairmount Water Works, organizing water education camps for children and participating on the Schuylkill River Heritage Park Task Force.

*"Fifteen years ago, the thought of a Heritage Park would have been unrealistic due to the poor condition of the River. With the establishment of national and local wastewater standards, the health of the Schuylkill River has improved so dramatically that 40 varieties of fish have returned. Through the Water Department's Interpretive Center, we can let the public know about the importance of water pollution control."*

Ed Grusheski

The Schuylkill River Greenway Association is a non-profit, environmental group that works toward preserving and promoting the environmental integrity of the Schuylkill River and its watershed. A major project of the Greenway Association is the development of a Heritage Park along the banks of the Schuylkill River throughout five counties in Pennsylvania.

**Do you know that PWD's origins can be traced to the 1793 Yellow Fever Epidemic? See reverse for more details!**

## Northeast Performs Treatment Triumph!

On Sunday, December 5, the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant treated an additional 99 million gallons of wastewater, nudging the plant to an all-time high of a total of 414 million gallons treated within a 24-hour period.

The unusually high wastewater flows coming into the plant resulted from two consecutive weekends of high rainfall. The last weekend of November and the first weekend of December poured approximately 2 1/2" to 3" of rain into the northeast.

Northeast plant employees are proud of the plant's performance, noting that the plant is permitted by the EPA to treat a maximum of 315 million gallons of wastewater daily. To the credit of the Northeast staff, the plant was able to accommodate the additional 99 million gallons without any detrimental effects upon its treatment operation, achieving an effluent well below pollution levels.

The Northeast Plant is still undergoing some modifications to its primary and final tank treatment components. The plant's ability to handle this recent "treatment challenge" proves that the investments made in upgrading the plant are paying off.

# THE MAKING OF A WATER UTILITY

Two hundred and one years ago, Philadelphia was caught in a state of despair as thousands of citizens died of Yellow Fever. It was the summer of 1793 when the epidemic first struck the city. Between August and October that year, one-tenth of the city's population (5,000 people) died of the fever. Those who could afford to leave, did so. Almost one-half of the capital's population (25,000 people) fled, including President George Washington and Pennsylvania Governor Thomas Mifflin. Miraculously, the epidemic subsided as the weather grew colder. However, the fever mysteriously returned with the onset of summer.

*Hot, dry wind forever blowing*
*Dead men to the grave-yards going;*
*Constant hearses, funeral verses,*
*Oh what plagues — there is no knowing.*
*Nature's poisons here collected*
*Water, earth and air infected —*
*O, what pity such a city*
*Was in such a place erected!*

*Philip Freneau, poet and editor*

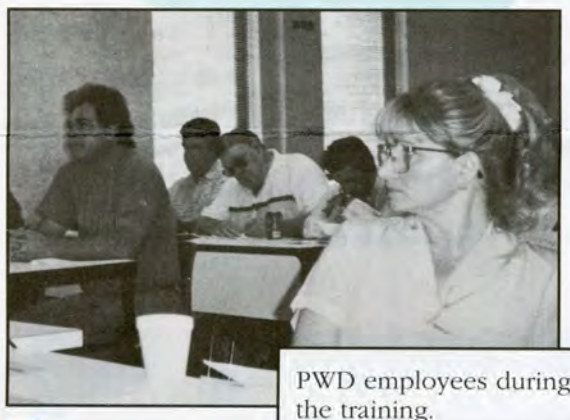
Prominent physicians of the day were at a loss as to the cause of the disease. Some believed that the fever was imported from the West Indies, where there was also a Yellow Fever epidemic. Others thought that poisoned or corrupted air, called miasma, was to blame. Miasmas were believed to be caused by toxic fumes from rotting animals and vegetable matter. Still others including Dr. Benjamin Rush, thought that the contamination of underground wells, which were Philadelphia's source of drinking water, was to blame. The actual cause of Yellow Fever would not be discovered until 1902 when Walter Reed's commission in Cuba identified that the deadly virus was transmitted by mosquitoes.

By 1798, the fifth visitation of the epidemic struck the city. This time, three-quarters of the city's population fled. Hoping to prevent the spread of the epidemic, the City Councils crusaded for a major clean up effort throughout Philadelphia. That same year, they established a Joint Watering Committee to provide a safe, sufficient water supply. The Watering Committee commissioned Benjamin Latrobe to design and build the city's first water delivery system.

Painting: *Fourth of July in Centre Square*, by John Lewis Krimmel, 1812. Courtesy of The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

The first pumping station, equipped with machinery to supply Philadelphia with river water was completed in January 1801. It was built on the Schuylkill River at Chestnut Street. The water was pumped from this station through a brick tunnel to Centre Square at Broad and High streets, where City Hall now stands.

## THE THREE C'S: COORDINATE, COMMUNICATE, COOPERATE



Photograph: Bernie Rosenberg

PWD employees during the training.

Approximately 120 employees recently participated in training for water main shutdown and startup procedures as part of PWD's capital improvements program. The employees learned the proper procedures they should take to efficiently handle water main rehabilitation (rehab) work. The training emphasized the importance of minimizing inconvenience to our customers by ensuring the quantity and quality of water supplied during the rehab work.

Water main rehab projects require an enormous amount of coordination, communication and cooperation among several PWD units:

**Administration of Capital Improvement Projects**
*Planning & Engineering Division:* Water & Sewer Systems Planning, Design, Projects Control

**Water Main Construction Work**
*Planning & Engineering Division:* Construction and Independent Contractors

**Operation and Maintenance of Water Main System**
*Operations Division:* Load Control, Emergency & Support Services, Distribution

**Customer Relations Functions**
*Public Affairs Division:* Customer Information
*Operations Division:* Customer Services

*"These new water main shutdown procedures will help us minimize any inconvenience to our customers. When we improve our performance, we will improve the quality of service delivered to our customers."*

Construction Division Engineer Al Horn

## 1994 HOLIDAYS

**New Year's Day,** Saturday, January 1

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day,** Monday, January 17

**Washington's Birthday,** Monday, February 21

**Good Friday,** April 1

**Memorial Day,** Monday, May 30

**Independence Day,** Monday, July 4

**Labor Day,** Monday, September 5

**Columbus Day,** Monday, October 10

**Thanksgiving Day,** Thursday, November 24

**Christmas Holiday,** Monday, December 26

## TASTES GREAT, LESS FILLING?!

Photograph: Bernie Rosenberg

For years, water utilities have tried to produce clean, healthy water that tastes and smells good.

Gary Burlingame, a Water Laboratory Program Scientist at our Bureau of Laboratory Sciences (BLS), was the primary author for the American Water Works Association's new manual *Flavor Profile Analysis: Screening and Training of Panelists*. It's a comprehensive, step-by-step guide to help water utilities evaluate the sensory characteristics of water.

The guide was based on our Lab's *Manual on Methods for Sensory Analysis* and the Lab's successful Flavor Profile Analysis program. Gary serves on AWWA's Taste and Odor Committee which has conducted extensive research on standardizing national methods used to analyze the tastes and smells of water.

## Letters from our Customers

Dear Mr. Cook:

Recently, there was a water main break on our block. This letter is to inform you of the remarkable job that was done by the men who repaired it.

On behalf of all my neighbors, we feel that these caring, hard working men should be commended. Their names are:

Bobby Johnson, Foreman
John Bevan
Randall Grove
James Bettis
James Gleaton
Gregory Pugh
Robert Kennedy
Bob Cross

In spite of the extreme weather and seemingly unending obstacles, they were diligent and persistent. Please know that these men are professional, courteous and they get the job done. We will never forget them.

With gratitude and thanks,
Louise C. and residents of
1100 block of Divinity Place

Bobby Johnson and his crew work in our Distribution Unit.

Photograph: Staci Woerle

(left to right) Bob Cross, James Gleaton, Randall Grove and Robert Kennedy

June 1994

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 592-4900.

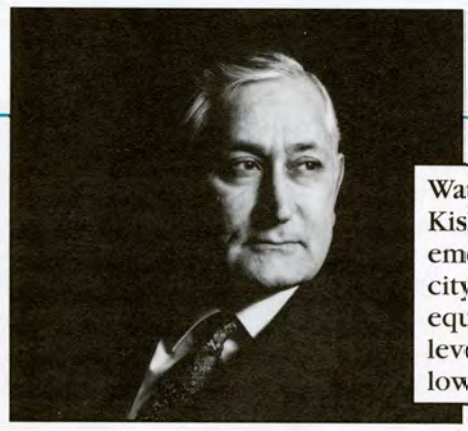


Photo: Walter Smith

Water Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand declared a "water emergency" to ensure that the city's water supply was adequately protected as storage levels dropped to dangerously low levels in January.

## WATER EMERGENCY DECLARED

On Sunday, January 23, Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand declared a "water emergency" when the city's overall water storage level dropped to only 33 percent of the 1 billion gallons that the Water Department stores for water treatment and distribution. Five days later, the Commissioner downgraded the emergency to a "water watch", when storage levels rose to 62 percent of total capacity. However, Commissioner Kishinchand cautioned, "Philadelphia's water supply is not out of the woods yet. Only when our storage levels, water pressure, and pumping capacity are restored to normal will we be able to efficiently meet the water demands of the city."

A number of factors, working in combination, caused the low water storage levels which prompted Commissioner Kishinchand to declare the emergency:

The dramatic change in temperatures over Christmas weekend, and the duration of below-freezing conditions, contributed to a record number of broken mains occurring since December 27.

*(continued on reverse)*

## THE YEAR OF THE BIG CHILL

### What Happened to Philadelphia's Water Main System?

Is Philadelphia's water main system breaking apart? Why did the winter of 1994 have such a detrimental impact upon our water mains? Can we expect to be flooded with as many main breaks in winters to come? John Durrant, manager of our Materials Engineering Laboratory, explained that several factors including increased frost loads and thermal contraction stresses, combined with existing loads acting on water mains, contributed to main failures. If mains have deteriorated from corrosion over time, these additional loads may be enough to cause mains to fail.

*The extreme temperatures and the duration of the cold in January were very unusual weather for Philadelphia. We saw a higher number of main breaks because of it. In 1994, we probably experienced main breaks that did not occur during recent mild winters, as well as those that would probably occur next year or even the year after that.*

-------John Durrant

If you're interested in knowing more about the factors that contribute to main breaks, John recommends a 1985 study, *Philadelphia: Water Supply Infrastructure,* jointly conducted by the City of Philadelphia and the Army Corps of Engineers. The study is an assessment and analysis of Philadelphia's water distribution system.

## Protecting Philadelphia's Water, 1793-1993 Conference at Fairmount Water Works

On Wednesday, January 26, cast members from the Walnut Street Theatre play, *The Vortex,* met at the Fairmount Water Works for an informal discussion on protecting Philadelphia's water. Susan Clark, one of the cast members, is known for her active work on environmental and social justice issues. The conference was preceded by a tour of the Water Works led by Ed Grusheski, Director of the Interpretive Center. The Water Works was chosen as the site of the conference because of the role it plays in the Water Department's public education efforts which help to explain how clean water is provided to the citizens of Philadelphia.

## PWD Quickly Responds to Emergency

*From left to right: Dean Mazzoni, Donald Potter and Andy Nells of our Pumping Unit helped break up the ice at the intakes to the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant.*

After assessing the city's water storage levels, the Water Department implemented a strategic plan to get our water treatment and distribution operations back to normal:

Our Load Control Center reduced water pressure throughout the city by 33 percent to decrease the amount of water lost through broken water mains. Due to the diligent efforts of our repair crews and the progress they made in fixing a record number of broken water mains, Load Control was able to restore water pressure to normal three days after the emergency was declared.

Our water main repair crews were temporarily assisted by 14 additional crews. A total of 27 emergency crews repaired broken mains, leaking hydrant lines, frozen hydrants, and investigated reports of serious leaks on residential water service lines during the emergency.

Our crews shut down broken mains as quickly as possible after they were reported, even if repairs could not be made immediately. Normally, we wait to shut down mains until crews can be dispatched to make repairs. By waiting, we minimize the number of customers without water until broken mains can be repaired.

Baxter Water Treatment Plant and Pumping crews worked round-the-clock to break up ice that blocked the water intakes at our plants.

Photos: Joan Przybylowicz

*From front to back: Bob Hayes, Ed Lewandowski, John DePero and Stacy Hopkins were part of the ice crew (alias: the Iron Man Shift) at the Baxter Plant.*

**The volume of water we normally withdraw from the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers was reduced by as much as 25 percent due to ice blocking the intakes at our water treatment plants.**

Our Customer Information Unit expanded its hours of operation until 1:00 a.m. during the week. The unit also remained open on weekends.

Customers were asked to voluntarily conserve water.

# Washington D.C.'s Boil Water Episode

On December 8, 1993, after two days of unusually heavy rain, customers of the Dalecarlia Water Treatment Plant serving parts of Washington, D.C. and Virginia, were told to boil their water before drinking it.

The boil water order was issued by the EPA because unusually high levels of turbidity were found in the water. Turbidity is one of seven physical characteristics of water whose values determine the quality of the water. Turbidity is a measure of the amount of suspended particles in the water. Suspended particles are removed during the water treatment process. While turbidity itself is not a problem, it may be an indication of contamination by Cryptosporidium. This parasite was the organism responsible for the outbreak in Milwaukee which may have hastened the deaths of 40 people who were already ill. Cryptosporidium is present in most untreated water. The only effective treatment is filtration.

When healthy people ingest Cryptosporidium, they experience nausea, diarrhea and cramps that can last up to several weeks. While there is no cure for the disease, it usually subsides on its own. People with compromised immune systems may acquire chronic cryptosporidiosis which may persist for months. No cases of the disease were identified in D.C. during this time period.

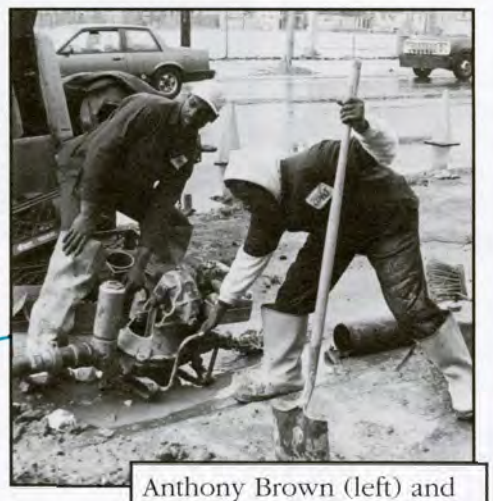
The boil water order was a proactive measure. On Tuesday, December 7, turbidity levels in finished water from the Dalecarlia Plant exceeded 5 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU). Turbidity is measured with an instrument called a nephelometer. The EPA issued the boil water order until Dalecarlia could show two consecutive days of parasite-free water. No Cryptosporidium were ever found and the boil water order was rescinded on December 12. According to Pennsylvania's drinking water regulation, which was adopted from the EPA's primary drinking regulation, treated and filtered water leaving a water treatment plant must not exceed 2.0 NTU's at any time and 95% of any month's water samples must not exceed 0.5NTU. Philadelphia's drinking water treatment plants average between 0.18 and 0.24 NTU.

While the turbidity was brought on by heavy rain, human error contributed to the D.C. emergency. Dalecarlia is an old plant run by the Army Corps of Engineers. Its water is taken from a reservoir fed by the Potomac River. The treatment plant uses alum as a coagulant and has rapid sand filters. The plant lacks filter-to-waste capabilities after backwashing and backwashes filters on a 96 hour interval rather than based on head loss or filter turbidity measures. The Corps of Engineers' other plant that serves the area was shut for repairs and Dalecarlia was treating all the water for about one million residents.

## Braille And Large Print Bills Now Available

**Visually-impaired water and sewer customers can now receive their bills printed in Braille and large print. These bills will be mailed with the regular monthly water and sewer statements. If you know someone who can benefit from this service, please call the Water Revenue Bureau at 686-6880.**

Photos: Mike Trobich, Office of the City Representative, City of Philadelphia



Anthony Brown (left) and Greg Pace (right) of Distribution gather up their equipment after completing an emergency repair to a hydrant line.

### To Water Distribution Unit and Fellow Employees:

On behalf of the Water Department, I would like to commend the employees of the Distribution Unit for their dedication and service during the winter water emergency. You have displayed exceptional pride in and commitment to your job and the City of Philadelphia. Despite the bitter cold and long hours this past winter, you diligently worked to restore water service to our customers. Your efforts are gratefully appreciated.

I would also like to acknowledge all the employees who work in other units, from those who worked side-by-side with us in the field, to those who responded to our requests, and to those who answered the many phone calls from our customers. We could not have managed without your assistance.

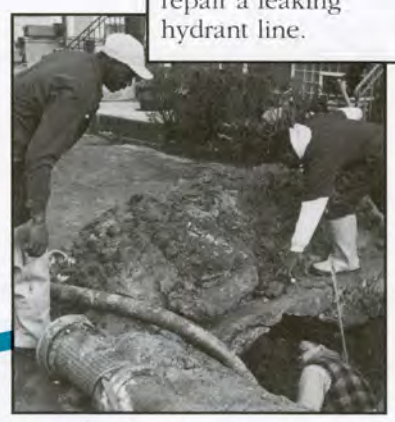
Many thanks, also, to Mr. Pete Matthews, Business Agent for Local 394 and the Local members, for your spirit of partnership during this emergency.

With heartfelt thanks,

William Cook

William Cook
Superintendent, Distribution Unit

Distibution employees Anthony Brown (left), William Miller (in excavation), and Greg Pace (right) repair a leaking hydrant line.



Pipeline is printed by the inmates of PHILACOR, the manufacturing and service arm of the Philadelphia Prison system. PHILACOR provides inmates with skills and practical work experience.

## Espanol

On occasion, our Customer Information Service Representatives deal with hearing-impaired customers and customers who speak foreign languages. If you know sign language or speak a foreign language, we could use your help. If you're interested, please fill out this form and return it to Barbara Kennedy, Customer Information Supervisor, Public Affairs Division, ARA Tower, 3rd Floor, 1101 Market Street, Inter-Office Mail.

Name_____

Unit_____

Work Phone #_____

I speak fluent_____

_____ Yes, I know sign language.

## WATER EMERGENCY FACTS

From December 27, 1993 to January 27, 1994, our water main crews repaired 432 broken water mains, averaging 108 repairs a week. Between 1985 and 1993, an average of 14 emergency repairs per week were necessary. 100 million gallons, approximately one-third of the 350 million gallons of drinking water we distribute daily, were leaking through broken mains each day.

Photos: Joan Przybylowicz

Customer Service Representatives Edith Phelps (shown here) and Marge Marcus (below) helping customers who called PWD's hotline during the emergency.

Marge Marcus

On the day the emergency was declared, more than 22,000 customers called PWDs hotline, 592-6300. The unit normally receives 2,000 calls a week.

In January, our Customer Information Service Representatives handled more than 465 calls regarding broken pipes in abandoned homes; 900 broken pipes in occupied homes; 1,000 leaks in streets, at the curb, and hydrant lines; and 2,200 "no water" complaints due to frozen pipes. This is just a partial list of the number of calls phoned to the Hotline.

**More than 300 leaking or frozen meters were replaced by our Meter Shop employees in January. This is eight times the number of meters replaced in Fiscal Year 1993.**

(Water Emergency Declared *continued from front*)

Ice blocked the raw water intakes at our water treatment plants, preventing the plants from withdrawing adequate quantities of water from the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. We could not replenish the amount of water needed for treatment and distribution as fast as it was being lost through the record number of broken mains in the city's 3,200 mile water main system.

Our ability to redirect drinking water within the water main system was restricted due to scheduled shutdowns of mains for rehabilitation work during the winter off-peak season.

We reduced our pumping operations to comply with PECO Energy's request for energy conservation during its state of emergency announced on January 19.

The extreme cold, snow and icing conditions hampered the ability of our water main repair crews to drive vehicles to job sites, operate heavy equipment, find the sources of leaks, and locate valves necessary to shut down broken mains. The numbing cold and long hours also took a physical toll on our repair crews.

October 1994

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

## EARTHMATE UPDATE

The Biosolids Recycling Center reminds us that their top-of-the-line product, EarthMate, is available free at five giveaway sites throughout the city. EarthMate, a screened compost mixture, is a soil conditioner and growing medium. It is ideal for use in potting soil mixes, lawn care applications and for mulching around trees, shrubs and flowers. EarthMate contains nutrients, including nitrogen (1%), phosphorus (2%), potassium (.5%), calcium, magnesium, copper and zinc, which are vital to plant growth.

To get your free EarthMate, bring a shovel, containers and some elbow grease to:

**TORRESDALE**
**The Baxter Water Treatment Plant**
9000 State Rd. (above Pennypack Ave.)
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

**EAST FALLS**
**Queen Lane Water Treatment Plant**
Fox St., north of Abbottsford Rd. (by the Route #1 on-ramp, next to Yellow Bus Depot)
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

**ROXBOROUGH**
**Domino Lane Recycling Center**
330 Domino Lane (between Ridge Ave. and Umbria St.)
Open Monday through Friday, 7 am-4 pm;
Saturday and Sunday, 7 am-3 pm

**SOUTHWEST PHILADELPHIA**
**Biosolids Recycling Center**
Penrose Ferry & Bartram Aves. (near I-95 South Exit)
EarthMate and Phillymulch available
Open Monday through Friday, 7 am-5 pm;
On Saturday, call 492-4079 for hours.

**WEST PHILADELPHIA**
**Belmont Water Treatment Plant**
Belmont Ave., north of the State Police Barracks
Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

EarthMate is also distributed commercially. Call 610-430-3960 to locate the dealer nearest you. Many dealers can arrange truck load deliveries.

### Is it OK to use hot water for cooking?

Not from the tap; use cold water instead. Hot water is more likely to contain rust and lead from your household plumbing and water heater.

Photo: Joan A. Przybylowicz

*Ramesh Shah explains the Northeast Plant's computerized operations to a group of residents during the May tour of the Plant.*

## Bridesburg News and Neighbors

During the past year, we have been trying to be more responsive to the concerns of our neighbors. We are meeting with Bridesburg community members on a regular basis to discuss the operation of and construction at our Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant and the impact of the Plant on their neighborhood. We are also sending newsletters to neighbors, keeping them informed of our operations and to report on the discussions at our community meetings.

At the request of community members, we have planted cypress trees along the Plant's property line, we have invited officials from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources to our meetings, we have discussed emergency evacuation plans for the Northeast Plant, we have resolved repeated problems with several manhole covers on Wheatsheaf Lane and we hosted a tour of the Plant.

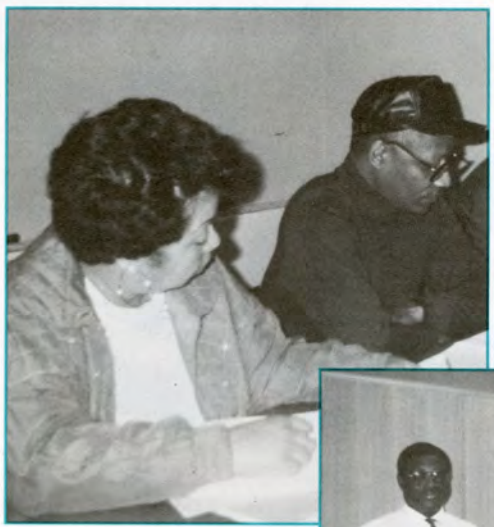
One measure of our success in operating the Northeast Plant in a way that is responsive to community concerns is the termination of the 1985 lawsuit filed by the Concerned Citizens of Bridesburg. The suit's purpose was to make the City stop operating the Northeast Plant in violation of state and local odor regulations. To resolve the problem, we spent significant funds on capital and operational improvements aimed at reducing odors. In 1984, the year before the lawsuit, the Plant racked up more than 100 odor violations. In 1993, only one odor violation was issued. The Court has determined that we have met the terms of the lawsuit and has terminated it, to everyone's satisfaction.

## ¡Hola! Bonjour! Konichi Wa!

Whether our customers speak only Khmer or feel more confident in Spanish than in English, they can now talk to customer representatives in any of 140 different languages. This innovation in customer service is made possible by AT&T's Language Line Services.

When Water Department and Water Revenue personnel need an interpreter, they call Language Line's 800 number and state the language they need. Interpreters are on duty 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"This service," says Water Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand, "will help us serve one of the fastest growing population segments—people who speak a language other than English."



Photos: Joan A. Przybylowicz

# Materials Management Unit Keeps Current

PWD storeroom workers recently completed a training course in Materials Management. The course covered every function performed by the workers during their daily routines. Under the direction of Ronald Waddell, manager of the Materials Management Unit, five employees developed the course, served as instructors and produced a training manual.

Currently, there are 55 Materials Management employees. They are responsible for purchasing materials such as hydrants, pipes, tools, clothing, office and janitorial supplies. They operate eight storerooms throughout the Department and handle more than 11,000 items. They also keep track of the inventory for 16 chemicals used by our treatment plants. Each year, they are required by the City Charter to conduct two inventories to account for all items.

Ron Waddell extends his appreciation to the employees who developed and taught the course. He also thanks Nancy Carter of our Training Unit for her invaluable assistance.

Photo: Bernie Rosenberg

*Campers build a model watershed and then add contaminants to learn how pollution affects their drinking water source.*

# Water Camp

Once again, we conducted the Summer Water Camp: The City and The Estuary at the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center. The one-day camp, which ran for eight weeks, was attended by children in day camps from all over the city, including Recreation Department day camps, Y Camps and camps run by Boys and Girls Clubs.

The campers, fourth and fifth graders, started the morning at the Interpretive Center where they learned about the water cycle and watersheds. After each camper built a model watershed, they contaminated their models to see how watersheds are affected by pollution. After lunch, campers toured the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant to learn how we clean used water before returning it to the river. This summer, more than 900 campers visited the Summer Water Camp.

Pipeline is printed by the inmates of PHILACOR, the manufacturing and service arm of the Philadelphia Prison system. PHILACOR provides inmates with skills and practical work experience.

## How can I get lead out of my drinking water?

Not all homes have a lead problem, but if your home does, this is what you should do. Whenever water has not been used for a long period of time, overnight, or during the day if no one is home, let the cold water run from the faucet for two minutes (this is a long time) before using any water for drinking or cooking. Saving this water for other purposes such as plant watering is a good conservation measure. Letting the water run for 2 minutes will not keep all of the lead out of your drinking water, but it will improve the situation greatly.

Photos: Joan A.Przybylowicz

# PWD in Print

Three PWD employees collaborated on an article that was published in *Operations Forum*. Gary Burlingame, a water laboratory program scientist; Jerome Mosley, a water technology assistant; and Soulmaz Khojasteh, a plant engineer, reported on a study of the attached growth on the rotating biological contactors at the Northeast Water Pollution Control Plant. They found that by visually monitoring the color and thickness of the growth, they were able to tell a great deal about the conditions of the secondary treatment process.

*Operations Forum* is a magazine about operating pollution control plants. It is published by the Water Environment Federation, a nonprofit educational organization made up of 40,000 members from associations around the world, including the Pennsylvania Water Environmental Association. The Water Environment Federation also publishes *Water Environment Research*, a journal for the dissemination of fundamental and applied research in all scientific and technical areas related to water quality and pollution control.

## Water & Sewer Rates Increased on July 1

A small water and sewer rate increase began on July 1, 1994. The Water Commissioner's Rate Decision, dated September 30, 1993, approved the increase. This increase is the same as the rise in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Philadelphia for April 1993 - April 1994. This means water and sewer rates go up at the same level as other general prices in this area.

These charges increased by 2.3%:

- General Service Water and Sewer Charges (including both service and quantity charges)
- Fire Connection Charges
- Surcharges for wastewater of excess strength (Biological Oxygen Demand and Suspended Solids)
- Charges for standard and high pressure fire hydrants

The eligibility income test for the senior citizen discount is now $20,300 annually.

Miscellaneous water and sewer charges such as the installation or testing of meters and groundwater charges did not increase.

## Can I tell if my drinking water is OK by just looking at it, tasting it, or smelling it?

No. None of the harmful chemicals or harmful microbes that might be in drinking water can be seen, tasted, or smelled.

Questions and Answers are from *"Plain Talk About Drinking Water." Answers to 101 Important Questions About the Water You Drink* by Dr. James M. Symons, published by the American Water Works Association ©1992.

November 1994

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

## SCADA On Line

A new system to monitor and regulate the flow and pressure of the water supply throughout Philadelphia and to parts of Bucks County is up and running. The computerized system, part of the Load Control Center, has been dubbed "Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition" or SCADA.

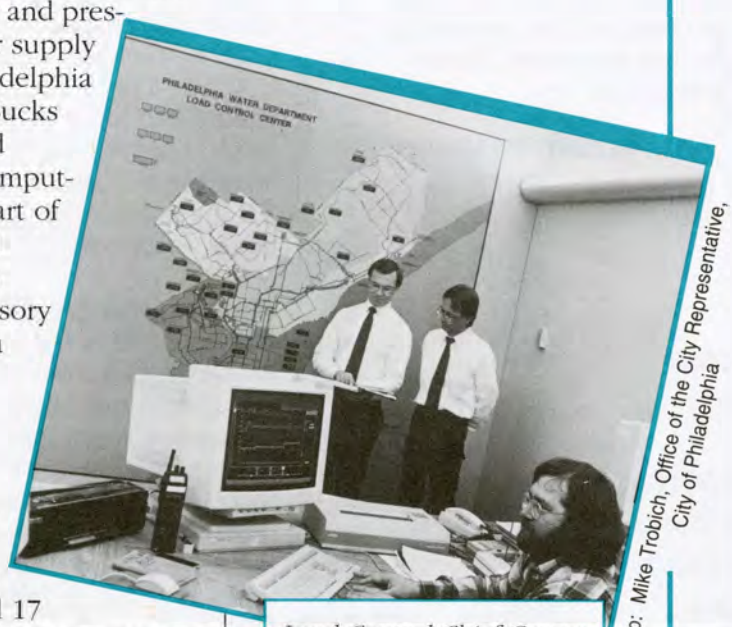



Photo: Mike Trobich, Office of the City Representative, City of Philadelphia

*Load Control Chief George Kunkel and Load Control Operations Engineer Kevin McNichol check water pressure data while Water Transport System Operator Dave Bounds uses the new SCADA system.*

Using this computerized equipment, our water transport system operators control 17 pumping stations, 18 reservoirs, and five water storage tanks. They also monitor water pressure at 40 locations throughout the city, and the city's high-pressure fire service system which is used to fight fires. Load Control Chief George Kunkel is pleased to report, "The system has improved the Control Center's emergency response to large water main breaks, fire fighting operations and other water-intensive events."

**With SCADA, system operators have more information available to them when making decisions affecting the city's water pressure, pumping needs and storage supplies. The operators can optimize pumping operations which should result in significant cost savings to the Department.**

The Load Control Center operates through a high speed intelligence system. Data is picked up by electronic sensing devices at more than 100 locations and is relayed via microwave to the Center. By simply pushing a button, an operator can start or stop a pump and open or close a valve at remote sites.

Load Control's original centralized system was installed in stages between 1960 and 1986. It was one of the first of its kind in the world. The new SCADA system greatly enhances the original system. With its interactive features and increased data handling capabilities, Water Transport System Operators Robert Woodson, William

*(continued on reverse)*

## UESF: Warming homes and hearts

Ten years ago, the Water Department, PGW and PECO decided to work with religious, community and business leaders to form the Utility Emergency Services Fund (UESF), a non-profit energy assistance agency. They were concerned that a growing number of low-income city residents were unable to pay their utility bills because of inadequate federal funding and the rising cost of energy. People who couldn't pay for their water, gas and electric faced winters without heat, a potentially lethal situation.

All administrative costs of UESF are paid by the three utilities so that money contributed to UESF goes directly to low-income families. The City of Philadelphia has given $200,000-$500,000 to the fund each year and the utilities have matched every dollar, doubling the amount available. Since its inception in 1983, UESF has provided more than $18 million in direct financial assistance to over 44,000 households. This assistance has either restored or prevented the termination of gas, electric, and/or water service.

Currently, the Water Department is promoting the assistance offered by UESF for the upcoming winter. In cold weather it may seem more important to pay gas and electric bills. However Kimlar Satterthwaite, manager of Assistance Programs, reminds us, "The Water Department provides a secondary heating source to many customers. Without water for radiators, many homes would go cold." In 1993, the program served more than 4,000 customers; 1,142 of those used the assistance to pay their water bills.

"It's a great charitable organization," notes Satterthwaite. "UESF pools the funds to reduce costs for customers who can least afford their energy bills."

## Quality Service for Those in Need

The Philadelphia Water Department and the Water Revenue Bureau also offer a number of programs to help customers. We want our customers to stay our customers. Payment agreement programs are available for all customers who are behind in paying their water and sewer bills. These arrangements allow customers to pay overdue bills through reasonable terms. Financial assistance may be available for low-income customers. Water conservation and household plumbing repair programs are also available. Here are some of the programs:

### WRAP

WRAP, the Water Revenue Assistance Program, allows customers who are behind in their water and sewer bill payments to make payment agreements avoiding shutoff of their water services. Customers must make a down payment of 25 percent of the amount of money owed on the water and sewer bills. The Water Revenue Bureau will work out monthly payment schedules for the customers.

Photo: Joan A. Przybylowicz

*Pearline Tollen helps customers reduce their water usage through a variety of conservation and assistance programs.*

The Water Revenue Bureau offers other water and sewer bill payment agreements based upon

*(continued on reverse)*

**At Thanksgiving . . .**
**give thanks for good health**
**by giving blood!**

**November 28, 8:00 - 2:30**

**ARA Tower, 5th Floor**
**Call Barry Brait – 685-6182**

**Collector System Support**
**Fox & Abbotsford**
**Call Diane Collins – 685-2027**

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

(WRAP *continued from front*)

household income. In addition, if a customer's household income is at or below 150 percent of the income standard defined by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the customer may be eligible for a Water Revenue Bureau Low-Income Agreement and several other assistance programs.

To get a copy of *We Want to Help*, a pamphlet that explains more about these programs, call our Customer Assistance staff at 685-4907.

## CAP

CAP, the Conservation Assistance Program, is another service we provide for our low-income customers. CAP helps customers reduce their water and sewer bills through water conservation and waste reduction.

The Water Department provides all the funds for CAP. Several Neighborhood Energy Centers perform the services for us. They conduct home water conservation audits to identify leaks and sources of water waste. If necessary, they repair leaking pipes and broken appliances that use water. They also install low-flow shower heads, toilet dams and faucet aerators.

Low-income customers can apply for CAP and other conservation programs by visiting one of the Neighborhood Energy Centers. These community-based centers provide customers with energy-related assistance that fit their needs.

## LICAP

LICAP, the Low-Income Conservation Assistance Program, helps low-income customers reduce their water bills. LICAP provides customers with minor plumbing repairs, conservation devices and tips to reduce water waste. LICAP is available to customers whose household income is at or below 150 percent of the income standard defined by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

## HELP

HELP, the Homeowners Emergency Loan Program, is an interest-free loan for homeowners who must make emergency repairs to water service lines, sewer laterals, or both. Homeowners are responsible for maintaining and repairing water service lines and sewer laterals. All homeowners, not just low-income customers, can apply for HELP. To be eligible for HELP, homeowners must have a Water Department Plumbing Violation Notice and must live in the home where repairs will be made.

**Contact PWD's Customer Assistance staff at 685-4907 for more information about CAP and the Neighborhood Energy Centers, LICAP and HELP.**

Photo: Joan A. Przybylowicz

*Michelle DeStefano of our Customer Assistance Unit serves one of the many customers who used HELP to repair her home's water service line.*

## Why does drinking water often look cloudy when first taken from a faucet, and then clears up?

The cloudy water is caused by tiny air bubbles in the water similar to the gas bubbles in beer and soda pop. After a little while, the bubbles rise to the top and are gone. This cloudiness occurs more often in the winter when the drinking water is cold.

Questions and answers are from *"Plain Talk About Drinking Water." Answers to 101 Important Questions About the Water You Drink* by Dr. James M. Symons, published by the American Water Works Association ©1992.

# TELL US MORE!

Earlier this year, we mailed billstuffers to our customers announcing a variety of brochures available that explain the Water Department's operations and services. After customers returned coupons to us, we sent to them the brochures they requested. Here's what they are interested in:

| BROCHURE | QUANTITY MAILED |
|---|---|
| Lead in Drinking Water | 753 |
| Water Quality | 660 |
| Meter Reading | 640 |
| Water Rates | 630 |
| Assistance Programs | 481 |
| Water Treatment | 466 |
| Conservation | 408 |
| Recycled Compost Products | 402 |
| Fairmount Water Works | 378 |
| Wastewater Treatment | 352 |
| Proper Use of Inlets | 248 |
| Proper Use of Hydrants | 208 |

The billstuffer proved to be a valuable tool for us to promote our operations and services. It was also a great opportunity for customers to tell us what they need to know about us. During public hearings for the 1993 water and sewer rate increase, many customers expressed a strong interest in learning more about the Water Department. Their interest sparked the idea for the billstuffer.

## ARCHIVES: OUR HISTORY COMES ALIVE

Construction Office Manager Tom Walsh recently found some valuable glass-plate negatives of photographs from the Oak Lane Pumping Station. These negatives were thought to have been lost. Tom also found photos from the 1930s of the severely polluted Frankford Creek. All these materials have been added to our archives.

We are in the process of computerizing the archives, a collection of the Water Department's historically significant materials. Once they have been organized, we will make them available to PWD staff and to the public. In organizing the archives, we are looking for historical material like photographs, books, office records, drawings and plans that touch on the history of the Water Department. If you have anything of interest, please call Ed Grusheski at 685-4908.

— by Honey Rodgers, Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center Intern

Mr. Albert Horne
Division Engineer, Construction Unit
Water Department

Dear Mr. Horne:

This is a letter of congratulations and appreciation. I am a resident on Hellerman St. in the Northeast section of Philadelphia where recent construction work was completed for new water pipes. I just wanted to praise your men and the way they handled the job. Our streets were cleaned each night, the men were courteous and the job was completed before the scheduled time. With all the construction, our trash and recyclables were collected as usual. I must commend both the Water Department and the Trash Collectors for a job well done.

Sincerely,

J. O'Sullivan

## KEEPING OUT THE COLD

Cold weather can create problems for your home water system. Cold air blowing through drafty windows or in unheated areas can cause water pipes to burst or damage meters. Plan now for the winter. Try these cold weather tips to help protect your home against frigid temperatures:

- Shut off outside water faucets from your inside valves, leaving the outside valve open to drain the faucet.
- Keep the area around your water meter above 40 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Wrap the water meter and the connecting piping with installation.
- Caulk windows near water meters and pipes, and cover those windows with plastic.
- Replace or cover cracked or broken windows.
- Wrap and insulate all water pipes in unheated areas, such as underneath a shed or kitchen floor and in garages.
- Let water run overnight at a trickle in extremely cold weather to keep the pipes from freezing.
- Have your vacant property winterized by a registered plumber.

Pipeline is printed by the inmates of PHILACOR, the manufacturing and service arm of the Philadelphia Prison system. PHILACOR provides inmates with skills and practical work experience.

(SCADA *continued from front*)

Timoney, Dave Bounds and Ted Fosco have more information available to them when making decisions affecting the city's water pressure, pumping needs and storage supplies.

The design and installation of the SCADA system was accomplished through the joint resources of our employees. Jim Giffear, a staff engineer in our Design Unit, planned and developed the system completely in-house based on the recommendations and needs of Load Control employees. Construction Inspectors Bill Sullivan and Lee Henderson, along with Division Engineer John Vencius, oversaw the system's installation. Load Control's electronics and instrumentation staff, led by Maintenance Supervisor William Brown, provided invaluable technical expertise during the installation.

Thanks to these employees, the $1.8 million system was successfully installed on schedule, within budget and without any adverse impact on our customers' water service. The SCADA system serves as a showcase of technological reliability for the water industry.

December 1994

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

# Pipeline

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

Photos: Bernie Rosenberg

*Customer Service Chief George Fisher, Leak Detection Supervisor Kenneth Mobley, Water Distribution Superintendent William Cook, and Water Distribution Supervisor George Millard develop methods to improve how the Department tracks water leaks as part of the benchmarking case study.*

## BENCHMARKING

In response to a request for proposals from the American Water Works Association Research Foundation, the Water Research Center invited us to participate in a project to develop benchmarks for evaluating water utility performance. We agreed, contributing $33,000 and hundreds of staff hours to the study.

For our benchmarking study, we are focusing on how our units respond to nonemergency leaks. "We identified ways for improving how we refer leaks reported by customers to various units for investigation and repairs, how long it takes us to repair them, and how units update our computerized information tracking system," says Charlie Zitomer, Chief of Water Conveyance. We are finding ways to improve the information system so that all the units that use it can get the most accurate details available about a specific leak. This will assist us in assigning appropriate crews.

Members of Water Distribution, Emergency Support Services, Customer Services, Customer Information, Load Control, and Water Conveyance Headquarters underwent a benchmarking training session in September. They now meet regularly to track how nonemergency leaks are handled. With their years of experience and wealth of knowledge, these employees can identify weaknesses in our current operations and recommend ways to improve our response record. These employees know what works and what doesn't. The benchmarking project is an excellent example of cooperation and team work. "We believe that we'll get more back than we've put out in dollars and staff time. The results can only be positive, for the Water Department and for our customers," notes Zitomer.

Benchmarking is one facet of Total Quality Management (TQM). TQM is largely responsible for the success of Japanese industry and has caught on as a management style in the United States. Benchmarking is a technique used to improve performance. You identify another company that is the best in the industry and then compare your own performance to the top-rated company. You then map out ways to improve your performance, working towards making it as good as the best. For PWD, benchmarking aims us toward the highest level of achievement.

The Water Research Center is an international research and specialty consulting firm with extensive experience formulating and applying performance measures and systems, such as TQM and benchmarking.

*Mary A. Allegra, General Manager of Adminstration and Human Resources and Lee Ticker, Systems Analyst for Water Conveyance, participate in a benchmarking training session.*

Photo: Bernie Rosenberg

*Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant employees are part of a team of Water Department employees responsible for bringing the Plant into compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit.*

## Southwest Improvements

As of October 31, the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant, located at 8200 Enterprise Avenue, has successfully complied with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for six consecutive months, completing five of the six major elements required by a 1990 Consent Decree. Previously, the Southwest Plant had difficulty complying with its permit requirements because of obsolete and damaged equipment, and not enough employees with the appropriate skills who could repair and maintain the highly complex equipment needed to run the Plant. Since the Plant was limited from operating at top performance, the quality of its effluent was compromised. Effluent is treated wastewater that is returned to the Delaware River.

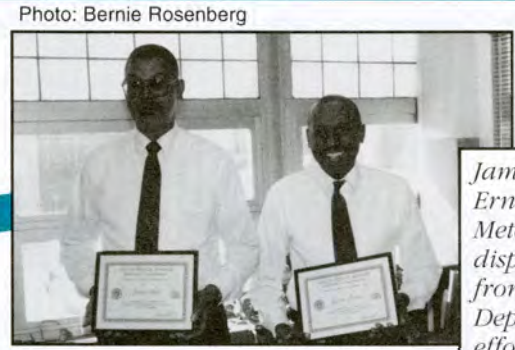
In 1990 the City of Philadelphia, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources entered a Consent Decree issued by the United States District Court. The Consent Decree outlined the terms required to bring Southwest Plant into compliance. The Court issued the Consent Decree as a result of a complaint filed by the EPA alleging that the City of Philadelphia had violated the Clean Water Act and the conditions and limitations of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for the Southwest Plant.

Since then, the Water Department has invested considerable funds to rehabilitate major processes at the Plant including primary sedimentation tanks, aeration tanks, sludge thickener and digestion systems, and final sedimentation tanks.

The Water Department was also required to hire an independent consultant to identify tasks that may have contributed to non-compliance and to develop corrective measures aimed at ensuring consistent, long-term compliance. Professional Services Group (PSG), a national wastewater treatment engineering and consulting firm, was chosen. They prepared a report which contained binding recommendations for a remedial action plan, staffing and maintenance. They recom-

*(continued on back)*

Photo: Bernie Rosenberg



*James Clark and Ernie Poaches of the Meter Shop proudly display their awards from the Police Department for their efforts to make Philadelphia a drug-free city.*

Ernie Poaches & James Clark
Philadelphia Water Department
Meter Shop

Dear Mr. Poaches and Mr. Clark:

On behalf of South Police Division, the below Commanding Officers would like to thank you for your outstanding contributions to the citizens and police in our war against drugs and crime in South Philadelphia.

Your unwavering support and effort in this battle are greatly appreciated by both the community and law enforcement personnel. Without your contributions in this ongoing struggle these problems would seem insurmountable. Any success we have had would not have been possible without your involvement in the South Philadelphia Service Support Group.

We look forward to your continued involvement in this group and its ongoing efforts in improving the quality of life for all residents in South Philadelphia.

Lawrence J. McShane, Inspector
Commanding Officer
South Police Division

Michael Cooney, Captain
Commanding Officer
3rd Police District

Joseph O'Brien, Captain
Commanding Officer
17th Police District

Michael McMahon, Captain
Commanding Officer
1st Police District

John Collins, Captain
Commanding Officer
4th Police District

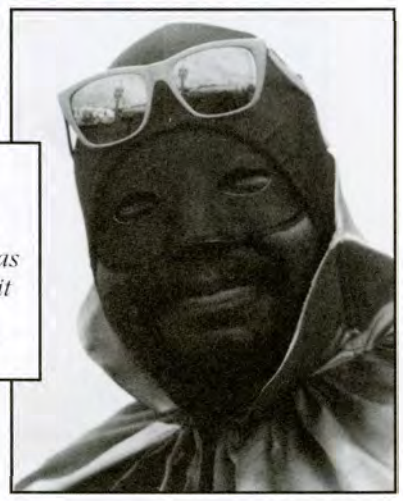
Albert DiGiacomo, Captain
Commanding Officer
South Detective Division

Ernie Poaches, Manager of the Meter Shop, and James Clark, Water Meter Service Worker, have been providing a valuable service to the City and the Police Department. As part of the clean and seal operation, Poaches and Clark have gone into crack houses and turned off water services.

"The police go in first," notes Poaches, "to seal off the area and make arrests. The utilities wait eight blocks away until we're told it's safe. We all move in at the same time, turning off the services and removing utility equipment such as water meters. I've never felt that I've been in danger from any of the drug dealers or users because the police make the area safe before we go in."

Thanks to Ernie Poaches and James Clark for their efforts to make Philadelphia a safer city.

# Captain Sewer gets $25,000 Grant



*Captain Sewer reminds us that, "Throwing trash down an inlet is as bad as throwing it straight into the Delaware River."*

The Delaware Estuary Program recently awarded $25,000 to our Public Education Unit's Captain Sewer Club to create a program that teaches the public about the importance of Philadelphia's stormwater inlets and their role in reducing pollution to the Delaware River.

As part of the public education program, block captains throughout the city will be invited to join the "Captain Sewer Club" and become guardians of Philadelphia's stormwater inlets. The captains will get informative posters, educational brochures, and "Captain Sewer tools" to get the job done — brooms, rakes and bags to help keep their neighborhoods clean and to keep trash out of the inlets. They will also get Captain Sewer hats and T-shirts to reinforce Captain Sewer's message.

Our infamous mascot, Captain Sewer, will also go on the radio, using 15-30 second public service announcements to explain why nothing but stormwater should go down an inlet.

While inlets may seem like unremarkable street fixtures, they are the front-line in our defense against the pollution of natural water resources, such as the Delaware River.

# Automatic Meter Reading Research

The future is here for the Philadelphia Water Department. Members of our Automatic Meter Reading Committee, which includes representatives of Planning and Research, Water Revenue Bureau, Meter Shop, Operations Administration and Materials Testing, are developing plans to bring automatic meter reading to the Department. They are involved in conducting a Beta test for a manufacturer of a new automatic meter reader. The reader, using radio frequencies, can take water meter readings from a van driving down the street.

The automatic meter reader was developed by ITRON, Inc. ITRON asked us if we would install 252 residential meters for on-site tests. ITRON supplied us with the meters, computer software, computerized handheld equipment, a computerized mobile van and training for staff to use it all. Our Meter Shop employees installed the meters and Water Revenue employees are taking frequent readings with the new readers supplied by ITRON. They are also taking readings the "old fashioned" way, by going into homes and looking at the numbers to check the accuracy of the new readers.

"The tests are going very well," says Jim Bolno, Beta Test Project Manager for Planning and Research. "This is the Water Department's first significant test of a product for automatic water readings. If it works, it will lead to lots of improvements for the Department, including more accurate water bills, greater customer satisfaction, improved resolutions of disputed water bills, and improved revenue collections."

A Beta test is conducted prior to releasing a product for full scale production. It is designed to identify problems not found during the original, or Alpha testing. Beta tests are conducted at customer locations and expose the product to the various environments it will see under normal operations.

Photo: Tom Love, Engineering Aide I, Survey Unit

*Before trenches can be dug, Survey Unit employees must layout distances for the installation of new water main and sewer pipes. Here, Ed Brown, Engineering Aide II, and Alex Faulk, Surveyor I, determine a property line near Mechanicsvillle Road in Northeast Philadelphia using a reflector instrument for a $1.5 million construction project.*

*(Southwest continued )*

mended hiring more skilled employees, auditing jobs, training sessions to provide employees with necessary skills, fixing a variety of equipment, purchasing a computerized maintenance management program, developing a work order system for preventive maintenance rather than corrective maintenance, keeping an inventory of spare parts on site, establishing procedures to receive septage trucked to the Plant from independent septage haulers, and formalizing procedures for testing influent (wastewater that enters the Plant for treatment) and effluent. In June 1994, the Water Department fulfilled the obligations of the Consent Decree which stipulated that each element of PSG's final report be substantially complied with for four of five consecutive quarters.

# 1995 Holidays

New Year's Day, (Observed)
Monday, January 2

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day,
Monday, January 16

Washington's Birthday,
(Observed)
Monday, February 20

Good Friday,
April 14

Memorial Day, (Observed)
Monday, May 29

Independence Day,
Tuesday, July 4

Labor Day,
Monday, September 4

Columbus Day,
(Observed)
Monday, October 9

Thanksgiving Day,
Thursday, November 23

Christmas Day,
Monday, December 25

January 1995

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

# CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

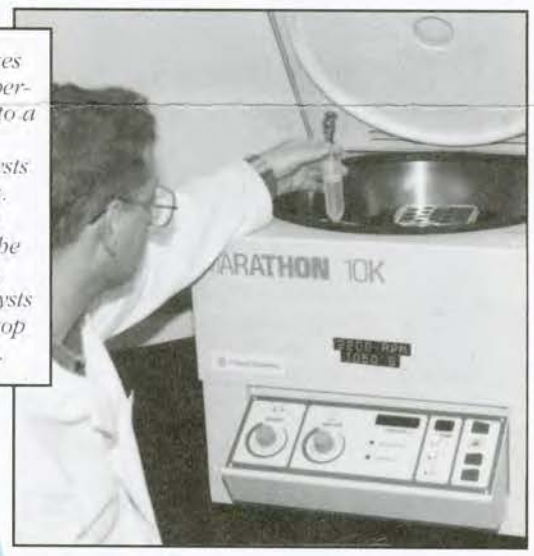
## AN INTRODUCTION

Cryptosporidium, the microbe that in 1993 made 400,000 Milwaukee residents sick, has become an important concern to water treatment plants throughout the country. Cryptosporidium is not currently regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The lack of regulations is not an indication of a lack of concern. Unfortunately, not enough is known about Cryptosporidium to write clearly defined guidelines for eliminating it in the water supply and to regulate it effectively. Although Federal regulations are not yet in place, Philadelphia has been sampling the city's drinking water sources, the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers, for Cryptosporidium and Giardia, another disease-causing parasite, since April 1994. Currently, we monitor for particles equivalent in size to Cryptosporidium and we check water for turbidity, a measure of suspended particles in the finished water.

To date, Cryptosporidium has not been found in Philadelphia's treated drinking water supply. However the possibility of finding Cryptosporidium in our treated water increases as new technology is developed to detect and monitor it. If Cryptosporidium is identified as the culprit in a water-bourne disease outbreak here, the Philadelphia Water and Health departments are prepared to immediately issue a boil water notice over radio, television and through the newspapers. We are also prepared to hand deliver notices to customers, depending upon the size of the affected neighborhoods. A boil water notice advises customers to bring their tap water to a rolling boil for one minute before drinking or cooking with it. We would keep the public well informed every step of the way until the water supply is deemed free of harmful parasites. Philadelphia's water is safe to drink. It meets or surpasses all physical, chemical, radiological and bacterial water quality standards of the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act. We regularly sample water quality from 85 points along the City's distribution system. In addition, water treatment processes are monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to ensure the production of clean and safe drinking water.

*Ken Sarkis of our Bureau of Laboratory Services demonstrates how Cryptosporidium cysts are isolated in treated water. Ken must first neutralize the chlorine in the water. Then, he lets the water flow at 1.2 gallons per minute through a filter where an eluting solution (a mild detergent) absorbs any cysts which may be present into the fibers of the filter.*

Photos: Bernie Rosenberg



*Next, Ken places tubes of the fiber-filled water into a centrifuge to separate the cysts from the fibers. The centrifuge concentrates the water samples, allowing the cysts to float to the top of the solution.*

## WHAT IT IS ...

Cryptosporidiosis is an intestinal disease caused by the protozoan parasite, Cryptosporidium. When the parasite is outside the bodies of warm blooded animals, it exists as an oocyst, a microorganism protected by a tough outer shell. These oocysts are everywhere in the environment. They have been found in rivers and streams, lakes and reservoirs, raw and treated sewage, and treated surface waters. The parasite has been found in cattle, sheep, swine, goats, dogs and cats as well as deer, raccoon, foxes, coyotes, beavers, muskrats, rabbits and squirrels. Consequently, animals typically found in watersheds may act as sources of infection for humans, shedding the oocysts which eventually wash into drinking water sources.

Infection can also occur from eating contaminated food, from exposure to fecally contaminated environmental surfaces and from person-to-person contact. Person-to-person transmission has been well documented in daycare centers and hospitals.

Cryptosporidium washes into drinking water supplies by way of sewage discharges, wild life, farms and stormwater runoff.

Cryptosporidium was first identified in 1907, but was not recognized as a cause of human illness until 1976. Between 1984 and 1994 there have been four major outbreaks in municipal water supplies in the U.S. The smallest of these affected 2,000 people in Texas and the largest caused about 400,000 Milwaukee residents to become ill.

## HEALTH EFFECTS

The illness caused by Cryptosporidium, a protozoan parasite, is called Cryptosporidiosis. The parasite is ingested in oocyst form and breaks open in the intestine. Incubation runs from two to 12 days. Disease symptoms include diarrhea, abdominal cramps, nausea, occasional vomiting and a low grade fever. Treatment can include antidiarrheal drugs.

Cryptosporidiosis typically lasts 10-14 days, but can linger off and on for up to 30 days. In some cases, it persists for much longer periods.

A cure for Cryptosporidiosis has not yet been found. Recovery from the disease is dependent upon the individual's immune system. The disease can be very serious or fatal for people whose immune systems are compromised—people with AIDS, people receiving cancer therapy, people taking immunosuppressive drugs for organ transplants and people with other illnesses affecting the immune system. Children, particularly those under the age of two, and elderly people are especially at risk.

*Here, Ken transfers the concentrated solution to a manifold with membranes that filter out any cysts which may be present.*

## AND WHAT WE'RE DOING

Testing for Cryptosporidium is a lengthy process. To collect a sample, a large quantity of water, about 100 liters, must pass through a filter which traps any cysts. This process takes approximately 3-6 hours. The filter is then sent to a laboratory for analysis, which requires several days. By the time the results of the test are available, the water sampled has already been distributed and consumed.

A negative result does not guarantee that the tested water supply is free of Cryptosporidium, nor does a positive result necessitate emergency action. It is important to note that the detection of Cryptosporidium alone should not trigger a boil water notice. Results are judged in conjunction with other factors such as turbidity levels of finished water, watershed activity, ongoing water quality testing in the distribution system and reports of an increase in intestinal diseases from the medical community.

Because testing and identifying Cryptosporidium is a lengthy and dubious process, monitoring devices have been developed that can pinpoint particles the same size as Cryptosporidium. Other devices provide continuous monitoring of turbidity, which measures the number of suspended particles in finished water. Both devices are good indicators of the performance of water treatment plant filter processes, our main defense against Cryptosporidium.

# The Cat's Meow - Sewer Maintenance Night Crew #642

To Whom It May Concern:

If you are over forty years old, you'll remember when you could call the Fire Department to get your cat out of the tree. Well, those days are over, or so I thought. On Wednesday, November 9th at approximately 9:15 PM, I witnessed the most amazing thing, but let me start at the beginning.

At the corner of the 5600 block of Crowson Street in Germantown, a gray cat was seen by children to have fallen into the sewer. Neighbors lifted the top plate off and indeed a large gray cat was at water level about five feet down. They put a board inside, hoping that the cat would climb out on its own, but the cat wouldn't climb up, scared, I'm sure. Instead, it went further into an adjoining tunnel but could still be heard frantically meowing. We closed the lid of the sewer and a call was placed to the SPCA. We were told it would be quite some time before they could get a truck to us. Someone then said, "Call the Water Department," and at that mention you could hear the laughter. "The Water Department, they won't do anything but raise your bill or cut you off. They can't do a thing about this." Well, get ready for this.

*Sewer Maintenance Crew Chief Donald Drakton emerges from a sewer manhole after searching for the missing cat.*

The call was placed and about two hours later a large white PWD truck rolled up with a crew asking the whereabouts of the cat. They opened the sewer and put a light inside. No cat, no meows, nothing seen at all but sewer water and the adjoining tunnel. They went to the manhole about six feet away and removed that cover. No cat, no meows, only someone saying the sewer rats may have got him. "Not if I can help it," one of the PWD workers said. "I'm going in to get the cat." "Yikes," I said, "down into that stuff; in the dark?"

The crew went into immediate action like a military movement, they all acted as one, no questions asked. A tester was inserted into the sewer to check for sewer gas. Uh Oh, the meter was sounding off. "Sewer gas," said a PWD worker. Another PWD worker suggested they check again. Again the meter sounded the warning of gas. A worker stated that if the cat stayed at this end of the line, he was dead from the gas. The PWD worker doing the test decided it could be the exhaust from their truck being sucked into the manhole setting off the meter. The truck was turned off. It worked, the truck was the source. I ran into the house and grabbed the first camera I could find and began taking photos because I knew no one would believe this story.

Photos: Martin Regusters

*(From left to right) Calvin Harrington, a semi-skilled laborer, Norman Simon and Booker T. Joe, Jr., sewer maintenance inspectors, hope to find the cat that fell down the mouth of a sewer inlet.*

No faster than you could say "kitty litter" a worker was at the bottom of the sewer, knee deep in water calling for the cat. At first attempt, nothing was seen. He bent over again, sewer water on his chest to look into the tunnel. "He's here, the cat is in the tunnel, but I can't reach him." Another PWD worker went into the open manhole to try from the other end. I went over to that manhole, looked down and the PWD worker had crawled on his stomach into the tunnel and completely disappeared inside. I started snapping photos and came back to the sewer in time to hear the PWD worker shout, "I got him." He raised his hands to street level above his head with a beautiful gray cat. The cat's feet hit the sidewalk and before you could see his eyes he took off like a bullet up the street into the bushes gone but not forgotten. Oh, the SPCA was pulling up at this time, just in time to see the cat run up the street.

What a group of guys these PWD workers were, what dedication and readiness. I'll never look at that white PWD truck the same again. Nine hearty meows to this crew.

Marty Regusters, "A Leo," Committee Person, 12th Ward, 4th Division

Photo: Bernie Rosenberg

*Nothing could stop Debbie Levinson of Data Management and Joe Mullen of Audits and Special Studies from rallying PWD employees to another banner year for the Combined Campaign.*

## COMBINED CAMPAIGN

As Co-Chairs of the Combined Campaign, Joe Mullen, Administrative Support Specialist in the Finance Division and Debbie Levinson, Systems Programmer Project Specialist in Data Management, have been working hard. This year's campaign got off to a great start, gathering $70,000 worth of pledges in the first two weeks. The goal is $130,000, a little more than the average the Department has contributed each year for the past five years. As of December 15, we have received $120,000 in pledges. The top five contributing units are: The Bureau of Laboratory Services, Inorganics Lab; Biosolids; Construction; Water Revenue Customer Relations; and Distribution. Other units which deserve recognition include: Water Conveyance Headquarters, which made 408 percent of its goal; Public Affairs, which made 290 percent of its goal; and Data and Flow Control, which achieved 255 percent of its goal.

"December 15 is the last day to get the full payroll deductions for the year, but it's never too late to give," points out Mullen.

Debbie Levinson believes that, "The Combined Campaign is important because it helps other people besides yourself. But you never know, you could be one of the people who needs it some day."

The Water Department has traditionally been one of the biggest contributors to the City's Combined Campaign, second only to the Fire Department. "We usually contribute about a tenth of the total collection," points out Levinson. "Imagine what it would be like if everybody contributed as much as we do."

Congratulations to Joe Mullen and Debbie Levinson for their fine work in coordinating this year's campaign and thanks to everyone who contributed.

Photo: Bernie Rosenberg

*Fish out of water? Not Juanita Jones and Terry Parran, semi-skilled laborers from Sewer Maintenance, who proved they could swim with the best of them. Juanita and Terry are the first females ever to complete training for shoring ditches sponsored by PECO Energy.*

## Another First For Sewer Maintenance Unit

During the past three years, Water Distribution and Sewer Maintenance employees have participated in shoring and excavating courses sponsored by PECO Energy. Over the course of three days, participants learn to use different types of earthmoving equipment such as backhoes, appropriate sign language to direct equipment operators, the correct way to dig an excavation to protect utilities, how to brace the excavation with the proper support to prevent cave-ins and, most importantly, they learn safety skills to protect themselves and their co-workers. The training is hands-on and trainees must dig an excavation to pass the course. According to Richard Goode, Sewer Maintenance Superintendent, "This training gives our employees the necessary skills to dig a trench safely. Before the training course was developed, our employees learned how to do this work on the job. The training gives them time to develop these skills."

During the most recent course, two semi-skilled laborers from Sewer Maintenance were the first females ever to go through the training sponsored by PECO Energy. Terri Parran, an employee with five years at Sewer Maintenance and Juanita Jones, a new employee with only six months, joined the ranks of PWD employees who completed the course.

Semi-skilled laborers are required to use tools and heavy equipment including jackhammers. Terri, previously a laborer for the Water Department, decided to become a semi-skilled laborer because the position paid more. "It's an adventure. I didn't think I would like it, but much to my surprise, I really enjoy being out there on the street. It's a lot of hard work. If you're willing to work, though, and work together, it can be done."

For Juanita, working as a semi-skilled laborer has been a learning experience. "It can be dangerous, so you have to be careful and work closely with the rest of the crew. I've gained a lot of confidence doing this type of work. Since I'm a new employee, I knew I had to pass this course. After the first day, I knew I could do it."

**To help with your gardening needs, we will be providing monthly tips, *Growing With EarthMate*, that you can use to plan your lawn and garden needs.**

## JANUARY

*Spruce up those withered trees!*

Prune trees to remove dead, damaged or diseased branches. You can also prune to improve the shape of a tree. Spread a 2" layer of EarthMate compost on the soil around the base of your trees. EarthMate insulates roots against the cold, conserves moisture, prevents erosion and weed growth and provides organic matter. To ensure free air exchange, allow 2" of space between the EarthMate compost cover and your tree trunks.

March 1995

Philadelphia Water Department

# Pipeline

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

## Kensington Repairs

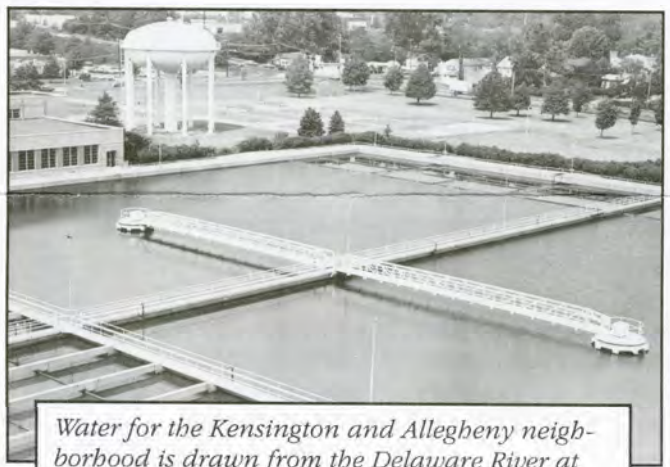
Photo: Bernie Rosenberg

*These Water Distribution repair workers, assigned to the Northeast section of Philadelphia, will be installing the new 30" line valve and 30" line connection at Kensington and Allegheny.*

In the spring of 1995, our distribution crews will install a 30 inch valve connection that will join a transmission main in Allegheny Avenue to a transmission main in Kensington Avenue. The transmission main in Allegheny Avenue is 30 inches in diameter and was installed in 1900. The transmission main in Kensington Avenue is 48 inches in diameter and was installed in 1907.

With the addition of this new valve connection, our Load Control Unit will optimize water main transmission routes, transport water more efficiently and improve water quality in this neighborhood. Load Control operators will be able to transport water between the two mains as needed, especially during peak usage hours and during the summer when our customers use more water. With the additional capability of transporting water between the two mains, Load Control operators can keep the

*(continued on back page)*



*Water for the Kensington and Allegheny neighborhood is drawn from the Delaware River at the intakes of the Baxter Water Treatment Plant, 9001 State Road, in the Torresdale section of the city. Employees at the Baxter Plant treat an average of 200 million gallons of water a day, enough water to fill almost one-third of the Spectrum.*

## Where's the Water?

When water rate increases were proposed in 1992, a major question discussed during the public hearings was the Philadelphia Water Department's efficiency. Although our most important job is to provide safe, healthy water for all our customers whenever they want it, we are committed to being productive with as little waste as possible.

One measure of efficiency is water accountability. Because efficiency is a secondary goal, water accountability has not been well defined by water utilities or by water professional organizations. "Lost" water is, however, a highly visible and financial concern to us. So much, in fact, that Water Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand leads a task force of employees who are looking at ways to reduce the amount of "lost" water. This Water Accountability Committee includes George Kunkel, chairman; Thomas Fenner; Michael Hogan; Clifford Lahann; J. Eugene Mudry; George O'Connor; Ernest Poaches and Roy Romano.

To determine how much water is "lost," we calculate a Metered Water Ratio. The Metered Water Ratio represents the amount of water that has been metered, and thus billable, over the amount of water we have treated and put into the system. How

*(continued on back page)*

## Give Blood: Help Save a Life

Barry Brait, our blood drive chairperson, urgently requests employees to donate blood, "Supplies have been absolutely devastated lately. There are so many people who can't give blood—people with certain health problems, people who participated in Desert Storm, people who have been tattooed or pierced in the last year and people who have traveled recently in certain foreign countries. We need all the donors we can get."

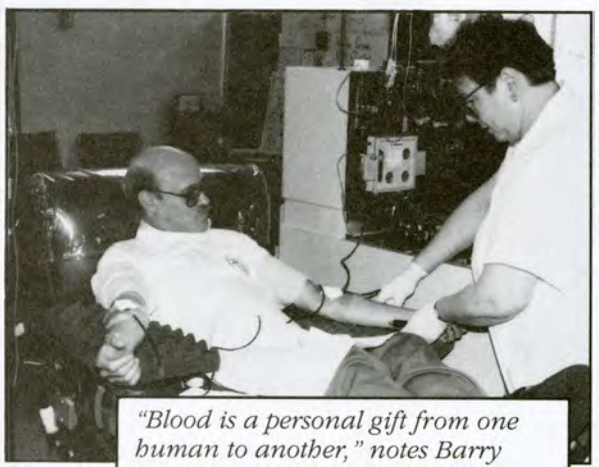


Photo: Bernie Rosenberg

*"Blood is a personal gift from one human to another," notes Barry Brait. "When one person is struggling for life, you can give them a helping hand. You're giving them health."*

Although this isn't our regularly scheduled month for giving blood, Barry reports that the Red Cross offers a new service. They will send a nurse and equipment to PWD units that can guarantee 10-12 donors, plus the use of a desk to conduct interviews. The process will take about five hours and each individual can expect to spend 45 minutes being interviewed and giving blood. If your unit can schedule 10-12 donors over a five hour period, call Barry Brait in Finance (685-6182) to arrange a Red Cross visit.

In our November blood drive, 42 donors offered their blood and 165 people who needed blood received the benefits of these donations.

## 2001–A Compost Odyssey

Visitors at the 1995 Philadelphia Flower Show were transported forward in time at the Water Department's exhibit, *2001—A Compost Odyssey*, where they caught a glimpse of unfolding trends for residential gardens. The exhibit's garden embraced recycling and conservation to protect and proliferate the world's precious resources. It featured our recycled biosolids compost, EarthMate, which provides essential nutrients to soil and promotes natural soil aeration.

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's 1995 Flower Show–Moments in Time: A Galaxy of Gardens was held March 5 to 12 at the Philadelphia Civic Center. Maureen Sullivan, public education officer and PWD's flower show exhibit coordinator, notes that, "Philadelphia gardeners who use state-of-the-art conservation methods, dry-loving plants, and EarthMate will have colorful gardens that will flourish well beyond the 21st Century."

## A Grass Roots Movement

More than 40 ground maintenance employees from the Water and Recreation departments, the Fairmount Park Commission and the School District of Philadelphia attended a Biosolids Workshop where they learned how to use EarthMate, our biosolids compost product, in their lawn and landscaping routines. The Water Department sponsored the workshop in February at the Horticulture Center in Fairmount Park. Featured speakers included Bill Toffey, our biosolids utilization manager, who spoke about the science of composting; Andy McNitt, a turf grass project associate with Penn State's Department of Agronomy, who talked about maintaining athletic fields; Bill Mitchell, a former professor and extension agronomist for the University of Delaware, who explained how to take care of turf; Judy McKeon, chief horticulturist at the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, who offered expertise on planting flower beds; and Byron Hampton, an agronomist with our Biosolids Utilization Unit, who presented information on grounds reclamation and renovation.

## Growing with EarthMate: MARCH

*Think spring! It's just around the corner.*

Sow indoor seeds of warm season flowers. To produce a quality growing medium, mix one part of EarthMate, one part of peat moss, and one part of coarse sand (all measurements by volume). Water thoroughly until excess water drains out the bottom of containers. Then, follow the regular watering practices required for the plants you are growing.

Charles Zitomer, Chief
Water Conveyance Headquarters
Philadelphia Water Department

Dear Mr. Zitomer:

Tuesday, December 6th, 1994 at approximately 2:00 P.M. a sink hole was discovered on 7th Street between Walnut and Sansom Streets.

As the Building Manager of The Curtis Center which has 2,000 employees working for various companies, I was concerned about the impact of this problem to our building operations.

After many attempts to find out the status of the situation, I reached Norma Lewis. She attempted to get me in touch with the appropriate foreman but he was leaving the office. She did call me back to confirm that it was a sprinkler line and advised me that the Night Supervisor would give me a call. Larry Robinson did give me a call and we were kept informed about the status of the repair.

Norma stayed after her normal business day and made an extra effort to ensure that we had a contact to work with throughout the evening.

We appreciate her assistance. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Marita O., Building Manager
The Curtis Center

(Where's the Water? *continued from front page)*

ever, task force member George Kunkel, chief of load control, notes that, "While this is a useful measure to us, it is also somewhat misleading. Not all unmetered water is the result of negligence or theft. There are several valid uses of treated water that are not metered and, therefore, not billable."

### Valid unmetered uses of treated water include:

•Water used to fight fires. The Fire Department hooks its hoses up to the hydrants which, of course, do not have meters on them. While we can estimate how much water gets used fighting fires, there is no way to come up with a truly accurate number.

•Water used for system maintenance. We may flush a system to maintain water quality, we may drain a tank and clean it, we may use treated water to disinfect water mains being repaired or added to the system. Current indications are that we have been underestimating the amount of water used for these processes.

•Water used by permit. Contractors and community gardeners may apply for a permit to use water directly from the hydrant.

### Water loss and water theft is due to:

•Leakage, which we estimate to be our largest cause of water loss.

•Theft, which includes unauthorized use of hydrants by contractors, car washers and children seeking heat relief as well as people who illegally reconnect water service that has been discontinued.

•Inaccurate meter reading. Meter readers may not be able to get into a home to read the meter and we have to estimate water use at that location.

### PWD is taking a number of steps towards reducing lost water. These include:

•A monthly report on the Metered Water Ratio which will be distributed to department managers. This report will also include news of leakage and any significant steps we take to improve the situation. It is hoped that this monthly report will raise people's awareness of the problem.

•Automatic Meter Reading. We are currently helping a meter company test a prototype automatic meter reader. This meter allows a reader to drive down the street collecting the readings from each house as he or she goes by. If the prototype meters work well, we hope to install them throughout the city.

•Improved information management. Our benchmarking project, which seeks to improve response time to nonemergency leaks, is one aspect of our effort to improve information management. We are also looking at the water delivery budget, trying to estimate more accurately the valid uses of unmetered water so that we can come up with a number that reflects the amount of water truly lost.

•As the decline in City customers continues, we have been trying to expand our base outside the City. We are currently working on a project to sell more water to Bucks County.

Although any perceived inefficiency in our operations is undesirable, it is important to remember that improved water accountability is not an issue or an end unto itself. It is strictly an indicator of our progress and efficiency as operators of a large public water supply system.

*This Water Distribution repair crew will be involved in the major repair work scheduled to begin in mid-April.*

(Kensington Repair *continued from front page)*

water flowing between the two mains in a continuous stream, keeping it as fresh as possible.

Our repair crews are already working in the vicinity of Kensington and Allegheny. They are checking the integrity of the water mains and existing valves, repairing them if needed, to ensure that the water main system is intact before they install the large valve and line that will connect the two transmission mains. This past November, these crews replaced a defective 36 inch valve on Allegheny Avenue. With the valve now operating properly, our water transport operators at Load Control will temporarily reroute water during the work scheduled for this spring, enabling them to limit the areas of water shutoffs.

William Cook, water distribution superintendent, says that the valve connection work will start in mid-April and estimates that it will take approximately two months to complete.

May 1995

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

## Blue Thumb Facts

You can refill an 8 oz. glass of water approximately 15,000 times for the same cost as a six pack of soda. And, water has no sugar or caffeine.


Eighty-five percent of the population is served by public water suppliers. The remaining 15 percent rely on 13 million private wells, cisterns, and springs for their drinking water. These sources are not regulated in all areas for safety and quality and it is up to the individual owners to test and treat their water supply.

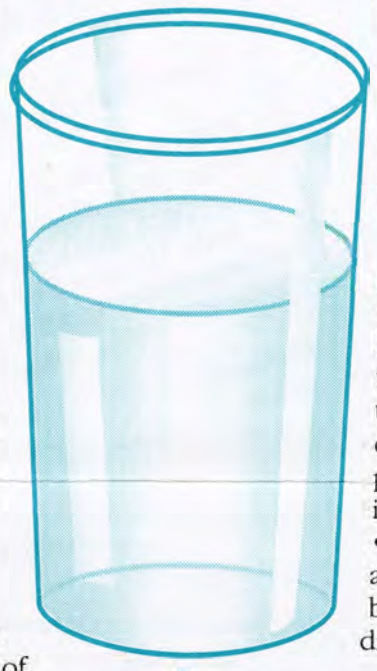

The average family turns on the tap to use water between 70 and 100 times per day.

It takes 36,000 gallons of water to produce one automobile—that's enough water for the average family of four to bathe, brush their teeth, and wash clothes for more than nine months.

*Blue Thumb Facts Courtesy of American Waters Works Association*

# Bottled or Tap?

Customers often call us inquiring about the differences in municipal tap water and various bottled water. Bill Wankoff, chief of water treatment, notes that aggressive marketing strategies and clever advertising campaigns by bottled-water companies have given some consumers the perception that municipal drinking water supplies are not safe. While many consumers enjoy sparkling and flavored water, taste should not be the deciding factor when considering bottled instead of municipal tap water. Bill explains that Philadelphia's water quality meets or surpasses all state and federal drinking water standards and that the bottled-water industry in the US is not regulated as strictly as municipal drinking water. However, since 1985, water that is bottled in Pennsylvania must meet state standards for basic water treatment processes and for maximum contaminant levels. Also, water that is bottled out of state and sold in Pennsylvania must also meet the state's maximum contaminant levels.



The US Food and Drug Administration only recently revised regulations for the bottled water industry. Although bottled-water companies must now ensure that the quality of their water is equal to tap water standards regulated by the US Environmental Protection Agency, there are no programs to monitor the quality of their finished products. In Philadelphia, our water treatment plants perform more than 350,00 tests annually to ensure that the treatment is doing the job it's meant to do. And, our Bureau of Laboratory Services samples treated drinking water at more than 85 points throughout the city on a daily basis to monitor our finished product at the customer's tap.

According to Dr. James M. Symons in his book, "*Plain Talk About Drinking Water.*" *Questions and Answers About the Water You Drink*, about 10 to 15 percent of households in the US drink bottled water on a regular basis, but they pay about 1,000 times as much for bottled water than they do for municipal drinking water. Dr. Symons provides a list of the differences in various types of bottled water:

- Sparkling water is water from any source that was made bubbly by adding the gas, carbon dioxide, from an outside source.
- Seltzer is virtually the same as sparkling water, but the source is almost always tap water.
- Club soda is similar to seltzer, except that mineral salts have been added. It typically has more sodium than seltzers and sparkling waters.
- Natural sparkling water has enough natural carbon dioxide to be bubbly without any other chemicals being added.

*(continued on back)*

*You're invited to our Open House!*

*Saturday, May 13th, 11 am - 3 pm. Noon Ceremony.*

BLUE THUMB

*Give drinking water a hand.*

Show us your blue thumb!
Celebrate
National Drinking Water Week
May 7 - 13

**Belmont**
*Water Treatment Plant*
*4300 Ford Road*

*Tour the plant. See how we process water & monitor its quality for drinking. Watch our crews demonstrate how they repair water mains & sewers. Meet Captain Sewer!*

*Directions: City Line Ave. to Belmont Ave. Follow Belmont Ave. south to Ford Rd. Turn left. Or take SEPTA Buses 38 or 40.*

George Stokes, Superintendent
Emergency Support Services
Philadelphia Water Department
29th and Cambria Streets

Dear Mr. Stokes:

I wanted to take time to thank you for your prompt attention to my hydrant problem on Oak Drive. Fortunately, it was a simple adjustment to correct. I also want to tell you that the crew you sent, John and Tom, were extremely courteous and handled the problem quickly and efficiently. The reason I thought you should know, is that I also have my own crew and do appreciate knowing when they have performed well. Please pass along my thanks to them again.

Thanks again for your help and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Joseph R., Jr.
Maintenance Supervisor
Pennypack Woods
Home Ownership
Association

*John Matthews and Thomas Keeler, water distribution repair workers from the Hydrant Unit of Emergency Support Services, received high praises from two customers for their outstanding workmanship and for providing service with a smile.*

Kumar Kishinchand, Commissioner
Philadelphia Water Department
ARAMARK Tower
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2994

Dear Commissioner Kishinchand:

PWD service men, truck #870053, were here at Tara and Comly Roads to repair the hydrant on the corner. It took them all of 20 minutes and (they) even gave the hydrant a new coat of paint. Many, many thanks.

Susan S.

**MAY**

### *Growing pains!*

Root bound houseplants need room to grow. Transplant your houseplants into separate pots using one part EarthMate, one part peat moss, and one part of coarse sand (all measured by volume). Wait two weeks after planting before you apply fertilizer. Do not plant the crowns any deeper than they had been in the original pots. Water thoroughly and return the plants to the desired locations. Acid loving houseplants may need added sulfur to lower the pH level of the potting mix.

*(continued from front)*

- Sparkling natural water is usually spring water that has had carbon dioxide gas added.

- Spring water comes from a spring, water flowing out of the ground, with no minerals added or removed.

- Mineral water is water containing more than 500 milligrams of dissolved inorganic chemicals (minerals) such as calcium, sodium, chloride, and sulfate in each liter. (These minerals are believed by some people to be of some health benefit, although there is no scientific evidence to support such claims.)

- Natural water has no minerals added or removed.

- Purified water has all of the minerals and chemicals removed by many treatment steps.

- Distilled water is made by boiling water, then catching the steam and cooling it back into water.

- Still water is water without gas bubbles.

In 15 states, if the water is bottled in the same state where it is sold, the source must be identified, and 23 states have passed laws regulating some aspect of bottled water.

In December 1993, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) proposed new rules that would change the labeling of bottled water. The proposal contained definitions for six types of bottled water: mineral water, artesian water, purified water, spring water, distilled water, and well water. It did not include carbonated, soda and tonic waters.

"Plain *Talk About Drinking Water.*" *Questions and Answers About the Water You Drink*, Second Edition, by Dr. James M. Symons, published by the American Water Works Association © 1994.

## Philadelphia Blue Thumb Facts

Each Philadelphian uses an average of 94 gallons of water a day.

The Water Department draws water from both the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers. Water to be treated at the Baxter Plant is drawn from the Delaware River as the tide rises. Water to be treated at the Queen Lane and Belmont plants is pumped from the Schuylkill River.

The temperatures of both the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers vary seasonally from approximately 33°F to 85°F.

In 1994, the Water Department's three water treatment plants produced an average of 360.9 million gallons of water a day. The Baxter Plant produced an average of 199.5 million gallons a day, or 55.3% of the City's total output. That's enough water to fill almost one-third of the Spectrum.

The Queen Lane Plant produced an average of 91.4 million gallons a day or 25.3% of the City's total output. At that rate, it would take the water treated at Queen Lane six and one-half days to fill the Spectrum.

The Belmont Plant produced an average of 70 million gallons a day or 19.4% of the total output. At that rate, it would take ten days to fill the Spectrum.

All three water treatment plants have about a day's storage capacity without pumping from the rivers.

Water from the Schuylkill River has a higher mineral content and is slightly harder than water from the Delaware. Overall, Philadelphia's water is considered "medium" hard. Hardness defines the quantity of minerals, such as calcium and magnesium, in a gallon of water. These minerals react with soap to form an insoluble substance or precipitate, and can affect common household chores such as cooking and washing. Hardness also affects other water qualities such as its corrosiveness. Soft water is more corrosive than hard water.

JULY 1995

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

## PWD Strives to Reduce Emissions

Since October 1994, we have been conducting a pilot project at the Southwest Water Pollution Control Plant to evaluate alternative methods for handling three byproducts of the wastewater treatment process at all three of our water pollution control plants. These products are screenings, grit and scum. The purpose of the pilot project is to develop a long-term, comprehensive plan for collecting, mixing and disposing of these byproducts. Currently we are landfilling these byproducts rather than incinerating them. During the course of the project, we have shut down all grit and scum incinerators at all of our plants, except for one incinerator at the Southwest Plant.

Based on the findings of the pilot project, we will evaluate each wastewater treatment plant's capability to collect and mix its own screenings, grit and scum. Our preliminary research indicates there will be less environmental impact to the communities surrounding each plant and that it will be more cost-efficient and operationally feasible for each plant to handle and dispose of its own byproducts independently. The amount of air emissions generated at each plant will be significantly reduced if we shift to landfills instead of incineration.

Our preliminary research indicates there will be less environmental impact to the communities surrounding each plant and that it will be more cost-efficient and operationally feasible for each plant to handle and dispose of its own byproducts independently.

A special task force, made up of representatives from Operations, Planning and Engineering, and Public Affairs, has been charged with developing and recommending a comprehensive plan to handle the byproducts. The plan must:

- meet enviromental regulatory requirements, such as recent changes to the Clean Air Act;
- have no adverse impact upon surrounding communities;
- be practical for smooth operations of the treatment plants; and
- be cost efficient.

### What are screenings, grit and scum?

When wastewater enters a water pollution control plant, it goes through primary treatment first where a series of operations removes most of the solids that can be screened out, that will settle to the bottom of the tanks, or that will float on top of the water.

Screenings are tree limbs and branches, rags, wood, plastics and other large floating objects that can clog pipes and disable treatment plant pumps and equipment. They are removed from wastewater by bar screens which have mechanical rakes.

Grit is sand and gravel. In the city's sewer system, grit becomes coated with grease and other organic matter from sewage. Grit is removed from wastewater in a chamber which has large tanks designed to slow the flow of the wastewater long enough for the grit to settle to the bottom of the tanks.

Scum is fats, oils, grease, vegetable and fruit wastes, small pieces of wood, cork, small plastic objects, bottles and other small floating materials. Scum is skimmed from the surface of wastewater in settling tanks.

## Stormwater Education CAC

In an effort to develop a public education and participation program to reduce stormwater runoff pollution, PWD has created a Stormwater Education Citizen Advisory Council (CAC).

The 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act require municipalities to apply for stormwater discharge permits under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and to educate citizens on the effect stormwater has on water quality. The CAC will play a major role in determining which educational tools will be used to convey pollution-prevention information to the public.

**"Most Philadelphians are unaware of the connection between stormwater, the sewer system, and water quality in local streams and the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers," said Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand.**

The goals of the CAC are to:

- develop and distribute educational materials to local residents, organizations and media on controlling pollutants;
- co-sponsor educational programs with local organizations and workshops on construction site management for pollution control;

(continued on page 4)

**Inside! Special! 1995 Belmont Plant Open House! Super Photos!**

# 1995 Open House at Belmont Plant Saturday, May 13




# A GREAT SUCCESS!

Photos: Nate Pace
Joan Przybylowicz

# JULY

**Those hazy, crazy days of summer!**

Insulate the roots of your shrubs and trees against the dog days of summer heat. Apply a 2-inch layer of EarthMate around the base of your trees and shrubs. Leave a 2-inch space around their trunks to allow free air exchange, to aid in conserving moisture, and to suppress weed growth.

Kumar Kishinchand
Water Commissioner
ARAMARK Tower
1101 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Commissioner:

We own various kinds of real estate in the city of Philadelphia. Every now and then, we have minor or sometimes major problems in dealing with the different branches of the City. Most times we have come into the City to rectify whatever problem we have; some of the city employees are courteous, friendly and helpful, most are not.

I want to report a gentleman that I had the extreme pleasure to meet. His name is George Fisher who works for the Water Department at the offices located on North 29th Street. This man could work for me anytime. First he met me with a smile. He listened, showed concern, gave advice, said what he will do, was courteous, friendly and knew what he was talking about. He is the epitome of what any public servant should strive to be.

WHAT A PLEASURE, WHAT A GENTLEMAN!!

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Joseph Gatta
Wynnewood, PA

*George Fisher, Customer Service Manager*

# Queen Lane Power House Gets Award

The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission selected the Queen Lane Power House restoration project for its 1995 Historic Preservation Construction Award.

In 1909 the Power Station was built to house the boilers and pumps used to provide water for cleaning the filters and the electrical lighting equipment. It was built on the side of an embankment—really a reservoir wall— to conceal the prefilter galleries, preliminary filters and basins.

The Power Station is a remarkable example of Beaux-Arts architecture not commonly found in Philadelphia. Much of the facade is decorated with terra-cotta sea creatures, gargoyles, star fish and conch shells. These oceanographic terra-cotta decorations are the subject of the recently restored project coordinated with Ortega Consulting and John Bowie Associates.

John Vencius, division engineer, Bud Walsh, project manager, Paul Wesselt and Jerry Sissian, project inspectors, supervised the work through its completion in the fall of 1994.

Today the Queen Lane Power Station provides water to wash the filtration beds in the north basin. It also serves as a high service booster station providing water pressure for the East Falls, Roxborough, Manayunk and Germantown districts.

(continued from front page )

- design a stormwater educational program for the Philadelphia school system.

Some CAC representatives are from organizations such as the Wissahickon Interested Citizens Association, the Friends of Pennypack Park, the Bridesburg Civic Association, the Friends of Tacony Creek Park, and the Riverkeeper Network/ Watershed Association of the Delaware River.

A lack of public awareness is, in fact, one cause of the city's stormwater pollution problem, because people often use storm drains as disposal sites for hazardous materials like motor oil and antifreeze and other trash. We hope the CAC is successful in educating the public about stormwater pollution and getting the message out that everyone can make a difference.

August 1995

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

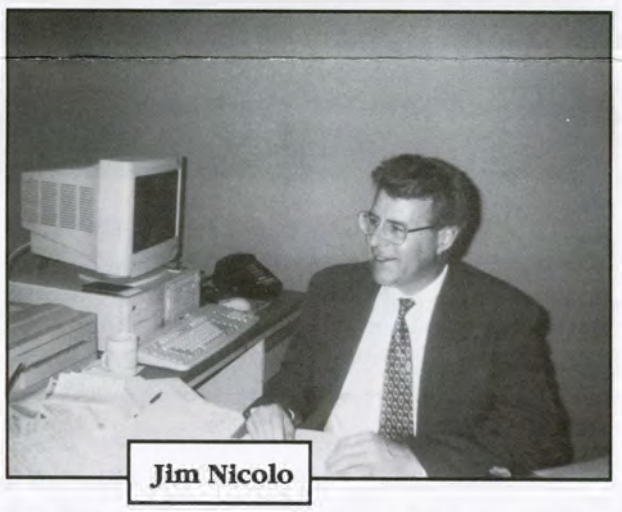
# Pipeline

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

## World Wide Water

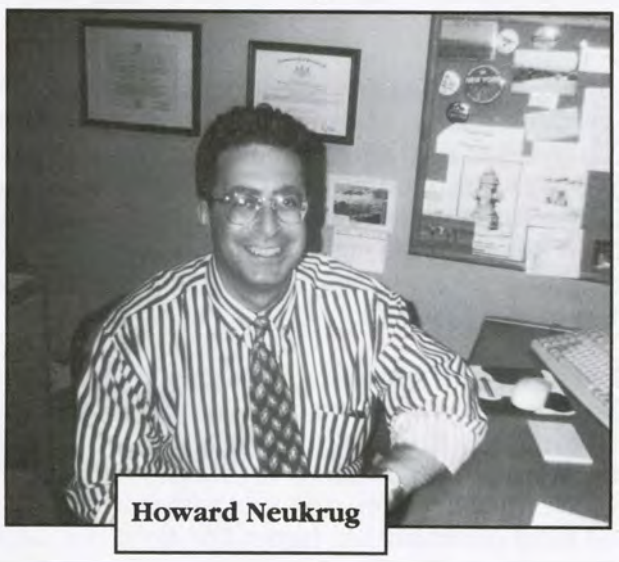
Taking their expertise to the global scale has been an exciting and illuminating experience for several PWD employees. These trips, sponsored by either Water For People or the host countries they visited, allowed PWD professionals to exchange knowledge with water and wastewater professionals abroad.

**Gary Burlingame**, Supervisor, Scientific and Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Laboratory Services attended the fourth U.S.-Japan Governmental Conference on Drinking Water Quality Management last October. He presented a paper on taste and odor control in the U.S. Mashiro Fujiwara, Director General for the Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation Department in Tokyo, noted the excellence of the information presented at the conference. Dr. Robert Clark, Director of the Drinking Water Research Division of the Environmental Protection Agency, in a letter about the conference, wrote that, "Taste and odor control is always an important objective for U.S. drinking utilities and the Philadelphia Water Department has been a leader in this area."



Jim Nicolo

**Howard Neukrug**, Manager, Planning and Technical Services, visited Bulgaria to inspect major reservoirs, watersheds, and water treatment plants there. Bulgaria faces both money and water shortages (in the capital city Sophia, half of the city experiences a water shutoff each day). Communication itself is a challenge due to the country's antiquated and inadequate telephone system.



Howard Neukrug

Water For People (WFP), a volunteer nonprofit organization established in 1991 by the American Water Works Association, was awarded a technical grant by the EPA to assist countries in Central and eastern Europe. Mr. Neukrug traveled to Bulgaria in December of 1994 under the auspices of WFP to provide technical know-how and establish the groundwork for future technical assistance. The WFP recommendations included reducing the amount of unaccounted for water (nearly 33%), especially during the current drought; application of modern technologies to produce higher quality water; and investment in equipment to allow recycling of clarified backwash water to increase supply.

**Jim Nicolo**, Chief, Water Pollution Control Treatment, was contacted by a representative from the U.S. Department of Commerce to provide information and wastewater plant tours to several officials from Greece who were in Philadelphia for a Hazardous Waste Conference. As Greece faces both increased environmental regulations from the European Community (E.C.), and the need to maintain clean rivers and ocean for their all-important tourist industry, they were very interested in how Philadelphia handles wastewater treatment. Mr. Nicolo lead their tours.

The Greek delegation was so impressed with Mr. Nicolo's depth and breadth of knowledge about wastewater treatment that he was invited to go to Greece at their expense, to lecture at the Technical Educational Institute of Athens and the National Technology University of Athens. His lecture topics included: an overview of the wastewater treatment plants in Philadelphia, reuse of

*(continued on back)*

## Bonding With PWD

Citing "the significant progress the city has made in stabilizing the Water Department's financial profile," Fitch Investors Service joined Standard & Poors and Moody's Investors Service in upgrading the water and wastewater bonds to stable, investment quality ratings.

The city will refinance approximately $220 million of outstanding revenue bonds, resulting in more than $10 million in savings. Philadelphia had been rated below investment grade since 1991, before the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority (PICA) was created to issue bonds for the city. A new series of bonds reflecting the higher ratings have been viewed with interest by the investment community.

## American Cancer Society Relay for Life Takes Off at PWD

PWD participated in the recent Relay for Life benefitting the American Cancer Society. The Relay, held on June 9 and 10, raised $226,336 for the ACS. PWD sent a team of 15 walkers and runners, and contributed almost $900 to the cause. Thank you to the runners and their sponsors for their generosity.

# AUGUST
## EarthMate Tip

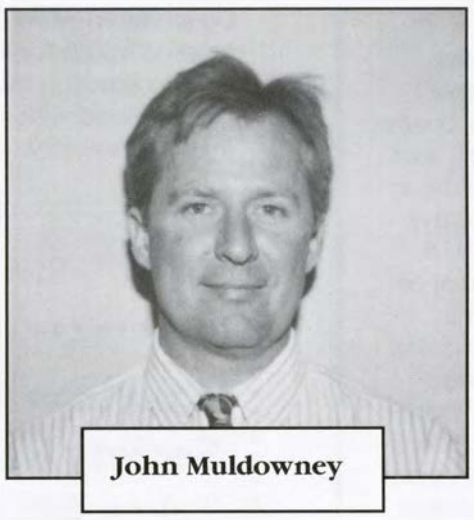
*Field of Green!*

This is the time to top dress athletic fields which have to endure heavy autumn use. A regular program of aerification and EarthMate top dressing helps control thatch, reduces compaction, supplies nutrition, allows oxygen to get to the roots, encourages water movement into the soil and smooths the playing surface. Add limestone to adjust pH to the 6.5-7.0 range. Apply a 1/4" layer of EarthMate, aerify, smooth and seed the area.

*(World Wide Water continued from front)*

wastewater treatment byproducts, and an overview of our Biosolids Recycling Center and biosolids composting.

**John Muldowney,** the Belmont Water Treatment Plant Manager, served as project leader for an exchange program with Poland. Funded by EPA and coordinated through Water For People headquarters in Denver, the program involved hosting four Polish water industry professionals from April 23 through May 3 in the Philadelphia area and leading a project team in Katowice, Poland, from June 3 through 10. Mr. Muldowney planned the schedule of tours and meetings with the Philadelphia Water Department and the Philadelphia Suburban Water Company, and at the Forest Park Water Treatment Plant; hosted the delegation during their stay; and was responsible for final report preparation. For the return trip to Poland, the program schedule was developed using the observations and discussions conducted in the U.S. Along with two fellow PA Water For People Committee members, Mr. Muldowney participated in discussions regarding regulations, water quality, capital financing, distribution materials for construction, and automation. In addition, he gave two presentations entitled "The Costs of Benefits of Automation" and "The Proposed Drinking Water Regulations in the United States".



**John Muldowney**

# PWD Managers are Award-Winners

**John E. Durrant**, Chief of the Materials Testing Laboratory, was honored by the Philadelphia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers as its 1995 Engineering Manager of the Year. The award was presented to Durrant at the Section's annual Spring Social/Dinner Dance on May 5. The Section awards are given to, "those individuals who have made significant contributions to the civil engineering profession in the Philadelphia area," notes the Awards Committee.

Durrant is a 1976 graduate of Villanova University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. He received his Master of Science there in 1980. Durrant served as District 4 Director of ASCE in 1989-92.

PHOTO: Mike Trobich

*Jim Golembeski receives the Greater Philadelphia First Public Management Award from Mayor Rendell as Water Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand and fellow BRC colleagues look on.*

**Jim Golembeski**, manager of the Biosolids Recycling Center (BRC), received the 1994 Greater Philadelphia First Public Management Award for his exemplary performance as a management employee of the City of Philadelphia, and the plan that he and the employees of BRC came up with to save the plant from privatization. In addition to the award, Golembeski received a $10,000 stipend for tuition for a program of professional development, education and training.

The plan included adopting a new, data-driven mission statement for plant employees, developing a five-year plan for plant production and a comprehensive capital improvement plan.

Using the Total Quality management tools of cooperation, communication and teamwork, plant management and employees of BRC reduced operating costs by 50 percent. BRC saved $15.3 million in City spending by reducing its budget by $30.5 million in fiscal year 93 to $15.2 million in fiscal year 95. While reducing costs, BRC also improved its biosolids compost product, increasing their percent total solids from 17 percent to 24 percent.

Greater Philadelphia First, established in 1983, is an association of business chief executives from 32 of the region's larger corporations. It works to improve the local business climate by attracting new investment, nationally and internationally marketing the region, and using its resources to improve state and local government. James Eric Bolno of the Water Department's Planning and Engineering Division was the 1992 winner of the Public Management Award for developing the Water Department's first joint-venture project to operate cogeneration facilities.

December 1995

Philadelphia Water Department

# Pipeline

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

## Water Quality Update

*Cryptosporidium* (Cryp-toe-spor-id-e-um) has been making headlines recently, unfortunately leaving some people to question the quality and safety of their drinking water. As Water Department employees, most of us have been asked for "inside" information.

It is important for people to know that drinking water is one of the *least*-likely transmitters of *Cryptosporidiosis*. There are many, more common ways a person can contract the disease, such as coming in contact with human or animal feces (diaper changing, pet caretaking), playing with or adopting a stray animal who may have the disease, or sexual activity involving contact with feces that might be infected with Cryptosporidium.

### • What is Cryptosporidium?

Cryptosporidium is a potential disease-causing parasite that is found in natural waters, such as lakes, streams, and rivers. Cryptosporidium is too small to be detected by the human eye; it must be seen through a microscope.

### • How does it get in treated drinking water?

Because researchers are just discovering the dangers of Cryptosporidium, water suppliers do not yet have testing guidelines to follow for detecting it in our water supply sources. In Philadelphia, our water sources are the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers. However, the Philadelphia Water Department is taking aggressive action by monitoring both rivers and our treated water for Cryptosporidium.

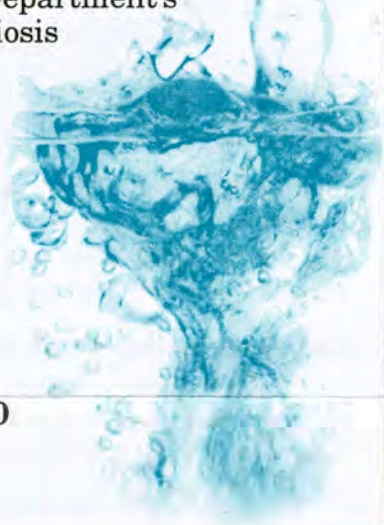
### • Who is affected by Cryptosporidium?

People in generally good health are not at risk of Cryptosporidiosis (the disease caused by Cryptosporidium). Very young infants, the elderly, and those with weakened immune systems, such as people with HIV/AIDS, chemotherapy patients, and people who have received organ transplants, are most vulnerable to the disease. Cryptosporidiosis symptoms often resemble those of the flu: fever, diarrhea, vomiting, and nausea. These usually clear up in a few days.

The Water Department and the Health Department both stand behind the safety and quality of Philadelphia's drinking water. Good water treatment filtration is the best-known defense against Cryptosporidium. Our water treatment plants operate their filters at a standard five times greater than the Safe Drinking Water Act requires.

Currently, the Water and Health Departments are working together to learn more about Cryptosporidiosis. We want people to be confident about the safety and quality of their drinking water. The Health Department's Cryptosporidiosis Fact Sheet explains how people at a high risk of infection can take precautions. It is available to everyone.

Call **685-6740** for a copy.



## Plants Receive Awards

Congratulations to the employees of our Northeast and Southeast Water Pollution Control Plants, and our Biosolids Recycling Center for receiving nationally prestigious awards this past year.

The Northeast Plant employees received the 1994 Gold Award from the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) for meeting all National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirements and effluent standards throughout 1994. They also received a Gold Award in 1991. The Southeast Plant employees received the AMSA Silver Award for having only four effluent violations in 1994. They received a Silver Award in 1992 and 1993, and a Gold Award in 1990 as well. AMSA plays an exemplary part in the development and implementation of scientifically-based, technically-sound, and cost-effective environmental programs for protecting public and environmental health.

The Biosolids Recycling Center (BRC) received the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 1995 National Beneficial Use of Biosolids Award. The EPA chose BRC over other biosolid recycling facilities for its "outstanding contributions that have increased knowledge and facilitated beneficial biosolids use."

Kudos to plant employees for representing the Water Department and the City of Philadelphia so successfully on a nationally competitive level.

## 1996 Holidays

***New Year's Day***
Monday, January 1

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
***(Observed)***
Monday, January 15

***Presidents' Day***
Monday, February 19

***Good Friday***
April 5

***Memorial Day (Observed)***
Monday, May 27

***Independence Day***
Thursday, July 4

***Labor Day***
Monday, September 2

***Columbus Day (Observed)***
Monday, October 14

***Thanksgiving Day***
Thursday, November 28

***Christmas Day***
Wednesday, December 25

# Community Outreach

During the past several years, the Water Department has built working relationships with the communities and businesses that surround our many facilities. To understand our neighbors' needs and concerns, we meet with neighbors who live near our facilities on a regular basis. This fall, the Water Department sponsored tours and open houses at several facilities to let communities know that we do much, much more than just "make water."

*Kendra Oliver of Public Affairs shares information with Tony Radocaj of the Bridesburg Civic Association.*

### Bridesburg & Port Richmond

On September 25th, employees of the Northeast Plant gave neighbors a plant tour and a brief update on the Plant's grit, screenings and scum disposal plan. On October 7th, the Water Department participated in Bridesburg's annual Community Pride Week celebration, with Captain Sewer recruiting new members for the Captain Sewer Club.

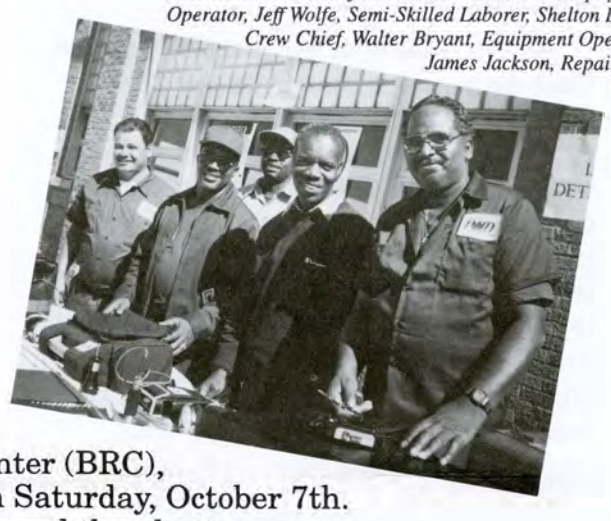
Recently the Water Department made the front page of the *Bridesburg Guide Newspaper,* and to our delight it was for good news: "The Philadelphia Water Department Plans to be a Better Neighbor." The article highlighted news from *NEws*, the quarterly newsletter we send to the Bridesburg and Port Richmond communities.

### 29th & Cambria

The Water Department held an open house for neighbors and employees of our 29th Street facility on Saturday, September 30th. Employees of Customer Service, Metering, Distribution, Emergency & Support Services, Machine Shop, and Load Control demonstrated the equipment they use in their daily operations. The Open House was a big success — over 100 people attended.

*Plant Manager Bill McKeon takes Northeast Plant neighbors on a guided tour.*


*Captain Sewer recruits new members for the Captain Sewer Club at Bridesburg Pride Day.*



*Leak Detection Team from L to R: Paul Turchi, Equipment Operator, Jeff Wolfe, Semi-Skilled Laborer, Shelton Davis, Crew Chief, Walter Bryant, Equipment Operator, James Jackson, Repairman.*

### South & Southwest Philadelphia

To showcase all the improvements at Southwest and the Biosolids Recycling Center (BRC), employees hosted plant tours for residents of South and Southwest Philadelphia on Saturday, October 7th. Representatives from many community and environmental groups came out and toured the plants.

This fall, the Eastwick and Southwark libraries in South and Southwest Philadelphia are displaying biosolids exhibits. Our Public Relations unit coordinated the exhibits featuring our biosolids compost, EarthMate, highlighting its beneficial uses.

# ZipCheck Makes Bill Payment Easier for Customers

As of July 1, our customers have been able to pay their water and sewer bills by ZipCheck, an electronic payment transfer program. Zipcheck is a convenient and easy way for customers to save time, postage, and check writing costs. ZipCheck also helps the City of Philadelphia lower its check processing costs and produce faster, more accurate financial reports.

The Philadelphia Water Department, PECO Energy, PNC Bank, and Philadelphia Suburban Water Company participate in the ZipCheck program. They share the responsibility of mailing information about the ZipCheck program, greatly reducing printing, advertising, and mailing costs.

Philadelphia Water Department

PWD mailed ZipCheck information to its 500,000 customers in the October water and sewer bills. Water Revenue estimates that 10,000 to 25,000 customers will participate in the program in the first year. The ZipCheck program has no sign-up, transaction, or cancellation fees, and costs customers absolutely nothing.

## Library Tip

**How to keep up with your professional journals:**

George Collier, of the Water Department Library, suggests that you photocopy the table of contents from every publication you receive. Review the titles of the articles and circle the ones of interest to you. Attach the copy to the cover of the publication, or store them all together. It will serve as a quick reference guide to the important articles in each publication.

July 1996

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

# "One-Call" is all it takes

PWD recently joined the Pennsylvania One Call System (POCS) to protect City employees, the public, the environment, and critical utility services from underground construction accidents.

POCS is a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation that serves as an information source for excavators, contractors, builders, designers, engineers and private citizens who intend to dig, drill, or blast at a specific site and need the location of underground utility lines and pipes. With just "one call" to POCS, underground utility lines can be marked or blue prints obtained before construction starts.

As a member of POCS, and in compliance with PA Law Act 38, the Water Department is required to respond to requests within three working days. Pasquale Morelli and Carole Papa, members of our One Call Unit, respond to an average of 120 requests a day.

Water Department Survey crews, under the supervision of John Kline, locate and mark our underground pipelines at excavation sites.

*Standing (from left to right): Carole Papa, Pat Morelli, Bob Bogan, Tom Jeffries. Seated (fron left to right): John Kline, Len Azzacano, Rick Allen.*

The Water Department's membership in POCS produces a higher level of public safety, reduces underground utility damage and service interruption, and decreases the amount of construction site injuries in underground excavations.

# Safety First

*Tom Jeffries and Ben Aptaker*

In the 1990s, safety is the first priority for businesses and industries around the world. The American Red Cross honored the Water Department with the **Help Can't Wait Award** for "exceeding the standards of safety excellence in the workplace."

In the water and sewer utility industry, there is a great need for crew members to be instructed in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and general first aid, in case of an emergency. In recognition of this need, Water Department employees may receive CPR and First Aid training from the American Red Cross.

Last year, the Water Department exceeded the Red Cross attendance standard for employee training by almost 50 percent.

# Drinking Water Week:
## A Perfect Opportunity to Meet Our Customers Face to Face

In keeping with its annual tradition, the Philadelphia Water Department celebrated Drinking Water Week in grand style with an Open House on Saturday, May 4. Water Commissioner Kumar Kishinchand welcomed more than 350 guests at the Department's Bureau of Laboratory Services which was officially dedicated during the Open House. Deputy Managing Director Frances Egan presented the Commissioner and Geoffrey L. Brock, director of the laboratory, with a Proclamation announcing Drinking Water Week in the City of Philadelphia.

Lab resident Marsha Rosenstein exclaimed, "Fabulous. Extremely informative. Wonderful job," about the tours the Laboratory employees conducted. Jean Knowski, Al Maslanka and Josephine Groch, guests at the event, were heard commenting, "Beautiful. We had fun. Atmosphere is great." No doubt, they were talking about the Amazing Jameel and the bewitching Alexa, (a.k.a. Laboratory employees Jameel Rahman and Alexa Obolensky). The enchanting twosome conjured up a magic show using the chemical properties of water to show kids how much fun chemistry can be.

In addition to tours of the Lab, more than twenty other Water Department units set up their vehicles and demonstrated equipment for customers to see how the Department detects leaks, repairs fire hydrants, examines sewers with T.V. cameras, and monitors industrial wastes.

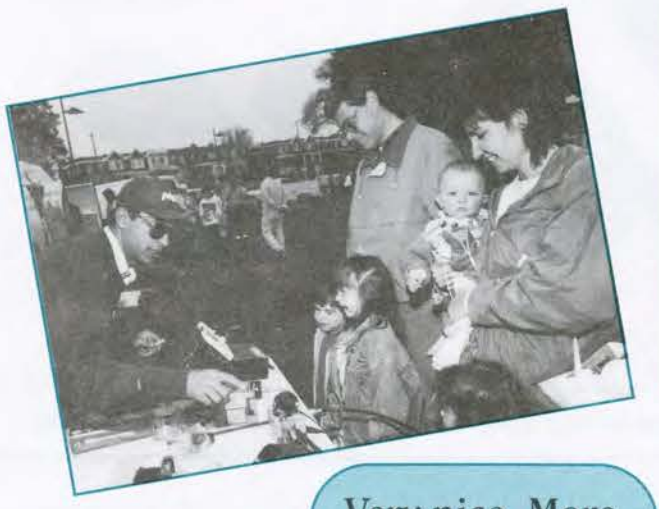
# A Decade of Better Water Service

*Pictured are attendants at a recent meeting (standing, l to r): Joe Hinton, Emergency and Support Services; Mike Battle, Materials Management; Joe Farrell, Belmont Water Treatment Plant; (seated l to r) Andy Why, Design; George Kunkel, Load Control; Chris Toobey, Distribution; Bob Wellons, Materials Management.*

The Water Conveyance Transmission System Projects team recently celebrated its 10th year anniversary. The monthly meetings of the team started with the goal of coordinating the duties of the various units involved in maintenance and capital improvements of our water transmission system infrastructure.

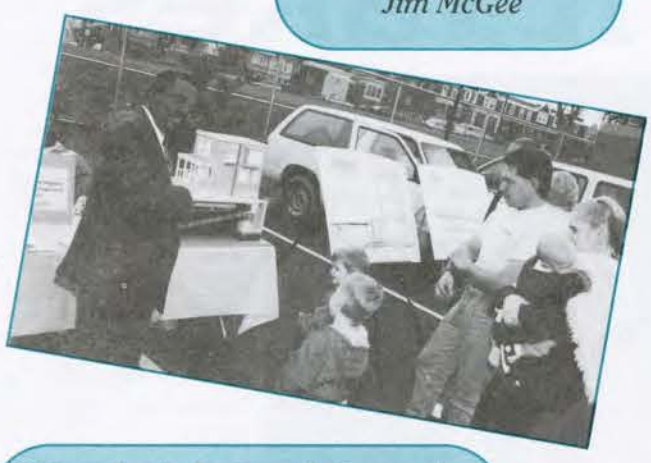
The team's first meeting ten years ago included representatives from Load Control, Emergency and Support Services, and Water Distribution. Over time, the meetings expanded to include representatives from our Design Branch and Materials Management, and other contributing units on a project basis.

# 1996 Open House



Very nice. More than I expected.
*Jim McGee*

Really nice. The employees explained everything so well.
*Mrs. Marinelli and Judy Baity*



This is my first time here. Interesting. Very informative.
*Joan Browna*

Wonderful. Good Crowd.
*Mary Wisoczanski*

Beautiful. Very entertaining. Should offer more.
*Mildred Robinson*
*Willie Mae Slaughter*

Really nice. I didn't expect it to be this nice.
*Lorraine Kurimchak*

Very interesting. I learned a lot.
*Jeanne Dingas*

I've lived in this neighborhood for 40 years. A lot of changes. This is very nice.
*Della Baker*

Nice, very informative.
*Barbara Patton.*

Captain Sewer is the best!
*Barbara Patton's two sons, Cedrick and Terrance.*

Water is Life.
*Captain Sewer*

August 1996

# Pipeline

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

Produced by the Public Affairs staff of the Philadelphia Water Department. For more information, please contact Editor Joan Anne Przybylowicz at 685-4900.

## Lots of Fun for Neighborhood Kids

Neighborhood kids will soon have lots of summer fun with the creation of play site with a low maintenance sprinkler system at 201-219 Indiana Avenue. The play spot will also include picnic benches, play equipment, and greenery grown with EarthMate, our biosolids compost product. Joe Wawrzyniak who is in charge of building maintenance, Bill Cook from distribution, Joe Ferrero from sewer maintenance and Coz Cinque who is coordinating the plumbers are working hard to make this happen.

Under the Philadelphia Urban Resources Partnership (PURP) grant, we will install water service lines (or reactivate existing lines if in good condition), install water meter pits, water meters and back flow devices if necessary and provide design guidance for the sprinkler system.

"We envision a circular area, dished to grade to the center," says Joanne Dahme, general manager of public affairs. "At the center, a sprinkler pipe or nozzle system would be installed to spray the area within the circle. The water would drain into the block's sewer system. These types of spray pools are popular at water parks such as Sesame Place," she continues.

Two other sites, Project HOME, Green Neighborhood Network located at 2235-2237 Montgomery Avenue and Black Lutheran CDC, Family Learning Garden located at 2154-2156 North Carlisle Street have decided to hold the project until next summer. Impact Services, Proyeto el Parque located at 201-219 Indiana Avenue should be completed this summer.

The three urban communities, Impact Services, Proyeto el Parque; Black Lutheran CDC, Family Learning Garden; and Project HOME, Green Neighborhood Network were awarded grants from PURP, and they will be responsible for future maintenance. PURP is a collaboration of 21 federal and state government agencies, local non-profits and education institutions that provide financial and technical assistance to communities undertaking urban natural resource projects or environmental education programs.

"This plan is a win-win situation. The play lots with sprinkler systems benefit the local neighborhoods by providing recreation, encouraging community participation and ownership, providing for the safety of children, providing for urban gardening of the community and protecting the community's water supply," says Dahme. "The play lots also help reduce the illegal use of fire hydrants for recreational purposes," she continues.

Sites are chosen in neighborhoods that experience a high incidence of hydrant abuse and qualify as a play street. Our goal is to eliminate the use of fire hydrants as a means to cool off. To attain this goal, the department is installing Center Compression Locks (CCLs) on approximately 800 hydrants each winter.

Daughters of Northeast Plant employees found education and enjoyment at the "Take Your Daughter to Work" day at the Northeast Plant.

## HIP, HIP, HOORAH!

*Commissioner Kishinchand and Captain Sewer presented awards to the following employees who have worked for the City of Philadelphia for 32 years: (standing from left to right) Philip Carey, (Commissioner Kishinchand), Richard Brinkos, Alexander Falk, Patricia Brown, Stephen Ballay, Richard Grochowski, Lawrence Samuels.*

On June 24, the Water Department celebrated the accomplishment of approximately 180 employees. These employees have dedicated 25 or more years of service to the city.

Whether it be handling customers' questions or complaints, repairing a water main, ensuring clean and safe drinking water, or cleaning inlets, the job is always well done. Kudos to these dedicated and invaluable employees. Through the years, they have shared their experiences and knowledge with others, creating a pleasant, learning environment.

The honorees are part of a team that has grown from approximately 1,500 employees in 1971 to more than 2,400 in 1995. It is a joy to honor the 25 year club employees and their hard work.

Commissioner Kishinchand delivered a brief speech and gesture of gratitude during a breakfast at the Adams Mark Hotel. The employees also received twenty-five year pins, PWD shirts, and certificates. Congratulations to outstanding employees and outstanding performances!

*Harry Duffort of the Planning and Engineering Division celebrated 40 years of service.*

# It's All Greek To Us!

*Professor Maria Paralika of the Technological Educational Institute of Athens, Greece, and Commissioner Kishinchand exchange a token of appreciation and a City Proclamation.*

*Joe Cerrone (right), Industrial Waste Unit, talks with several Greek students about The Philadelphia Water Department and his Unit.*

It was a multi-cultural affair as PWD hosted a reception for Greek students. Ten Greek engineering students, along with their teacher, Maria Paralika, were welcomed at the ARAMARK Tower on July 15. This reception was intended to introduce the group to the PWD employees they will be working with during their educational program on wastewater treatment.

Maria Paralika and the students from Technological Educational Institution of Athens were in Philadelphia from July 5 to August 20 to study wastewater treatment, biosolids recycling, and industrial waste handling. Greece does not currently have a wastewater system comparable to our own.

The six week program, coordinated by Jim Nicolo, Chief of Wastewater Treatment, is thorough and intense. Working side by side with PWD engineers, the students learned about wastewater collection, treatment and disposal, and the health and safety aspects of primary and secondary wastewater treatment. Maria Paralika and her students also attended numerous training classes conducted by PWD.

This program is intended to help further educate the Greek engineering students and share information about wastewater treatment. Maria plans to teach university classes on wastewater treatment when she returns to Greece. The engineering students hope to someday develop a secondary wastewater system in Greece, or at least propose a plan to the Government to do so.

*Maria Paralika and her Greek students gathered at the ARAMARK building for a welcome reception. Pictured from left to right are: Maria Kapsokefalou, Christina Giannakopoulou, Alexandros Siregelas, Efthimia Papnikou, Ioanna Skorda, Thomas Papdakis, Ioanis Makris, Maria Paralika (Professor), Leonidas Adamopolous, Dionisios Danilatos, Kostantinos Nellas, and Vassilios Digaletos.*

# BUG OFF!

PWD's Urban Turfgrass Resource Group sponsored an Athletic Equipment Field Day. Dave Mora of the Biosolids Unit organized this event, which was open to anyone in a Philadelphia agency or organization that uses city-owned athletic fields. Experts provided information on Pest Control and Proper Field Maintenance at the Field Day, which took place on July 11, 1996, at W.B. Saul High School in Roxborough.

Nancy Bosold, an Extension Agent with Penn State and knowledgeable about fertilizers, chemicals and turf, gave a presentation on "Integrated Pest Management." She provided information and techniques on how to control pest and insect populations without the use of chemicals. These techniques will help keep the bugs off you while enjoying the day or night watching the kids play ball.

BRC Agronomist Dave Mora fills a front-end loader with EarthMate, which will be used as a topdressing on Saul's athletic fields, as Byron Hampton of BRC looks on.

Ken Jeinnings, of Lawn and Golf, demonstrates a top dressing unit.

A member of the Keystone Athletic Field Maintenance Organization, Don Fowler presented "Athletic Fields on a Shoestring Budget." He provided information on how to properly maintain playing fields, helping to reduce the risk of injuries to athletes. This type of maintenance can be performed even if there is little money in the budget.

After lunch, the Athletic Equipment Field Day closed with an "Equipment and Field Demonstration." Field equipment necessary for properly maintaining fields was on display and a demonstration on how to perform the maintenance was given. Over 60 people showed up for this event.

# pipe line

Philadelphia Water Department

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*Mark McLaughlin*
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Philadelphia Water Department Employee Newsletter • Published by the Public Relations Unit • November 1996


*East Park Reservoir Committee Members met on a regular basis, during the reconstruction of the northeast basin, ensuring that it was back in service in time for this past summer's peak water demand needs. Committee Members shown are (left to right) Kamlesh Patel, Ernie Ferrero, Jim Brady, Bill Hatcher, Jerry Kuziw, Gerson Korntreger, Bill Wankoff, Joe Schultz, Joanne Anovick, Cliff Lahann and Jung Choi.*

## and PWD said... "LET THERE BE WATER"

The northeast basin of the East Park Reservoir, which has been out of service for more than 10 years, is back in operation. The Water Department removed the northeast basin from service in November 1985, after a breech in the north dike on the basin. The dike walls are now stabilized and PWD employees disinfected the basin and reactivated it on May 15, 1996. Because it is back in service, the Water Department took the south basin out-of-service on May 23. The improvement of one basin and the shut down of another will contribute to improved water quality in the City.

The northeast basin is now a covered basin. The cover protects the treated water. It's a barrier preventing airborne and wind-blown materials and debris from contaminating the water. This cover will greatly enhance the quality of drinking water stored in the basin. East Park Reservoir's northeast basin stores treated drinking water from both the Baxter and the Queen Lane Water Treatment Plants.

The water quality in the basin also received a boost because of the installation of a thick, synthetic rubber liner along the sides and bottom of the basin. The liner acts as a barrier from contamination from groundwater and soil and it also makes the walls more stable.

The basin also has a new pipe system. These pipes allow for better water flow, ensuring our customers always get fresh water. The basin holds more than 210 million gallons of water and serves sections of Fairmount, North Philadelphia, Center City, and South Philadelphia.

Congratulations to the successful team in charge of this monumental project!

## TAKE A STROLL


Visit the Esplanade at the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center. Thanks to Ed Grusheski, Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center Director, and a wonderful volunteer staff, the center has a new look. Ed and the volunteers have worked many hours to add new exhibits and landscaping to the beautiful path that runs along the Schuylkill River. The Esplanade is home to ten industrial plaques and a part of the cast-iron bevel gear from an 1870 turbine.

The exhibits along the Esplanade invite visitors to explore man's changing relationship with the Schuylkill River from the time of the Lenape Indians to the present. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources Coastal Zone Management Program and the Philadelphia Flower Show, Inc. have provided partial funding for landscaping along the bank of the river and for some exhibits.

You can begin your stroll along the exhibits with the Lenape Indian fishing artifacts, cast in bronze, representing man's earliest activities along the river. Continuing along the path, you come upon a ferryboat landing that represents the early use of the river. Many people used the Schuylkill River to transport raw and furnished goods into and out of Philadelphia. Further along the path, you'll discover a clue to a "secret truth" about the history and significance of the river and the Water Works. At the end of the path you can join the life-size cast metal Fisherman perched atop a rock as he waits for his prize catch.

The exhibits enhance the Esplanade's beauty. They invite the visitor to discovery instead of calling


attention to themselves. The Esplanade arouses curiosity about the soon-to-be developed Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center and the indoor exhibits that PWD will display there.

A reception was held at the Esplanade on October 11, 1996, for Fairmount Water Works volunteers. Ed Grusheski has done an excellent job developing the Esplanade. His work continues through the school year as he gives tours and lessons to students.

The Esplanade is open year round, so stop on down and stroll along the Esplanade. The Fairmount Water Works and Esplanade are located along the Schuylkill River on Aquarium Drive just off Kelly Drive and below the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

# who says THREE's a CROWD

Three's never a crowd when it comes to awards. Congratulations to the employees of our three water pollution control plants. All three plants won awards from the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA). They met all National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirements and effluent standards. Effluent is the water that is returned to the river after wastewater is treated and pollutants are removed. PWD removes more than 92% of pollutants from wastewater.

Topping the list of winners is Southwest, which won a Gold Award. This was the first time Southwest was eligible to receive an AMSA Award now that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency accepted their certificate of compliance. Keep up the good work!

Southeast also ranks at the top. Employees at Southeast are rejoicing over their Gold Award. They will add the Gold Award to their previous awards. Southeast received Silver Awards in 1992, 1993, and 1994 and a Gold Award in 1990. Both PWD employees and our customers appreciate your dedication to wastewater treatment.

Northeast Plant employees are happy to receive a Silver Award for 1995. They are adding the Silver Award to their previous collection of Gold Awards received in both 1991 and 1994. Congratulations to the Northeast employees for receiving an award two years in a row! Go for the Gold next year.

AMSA gives out awards yearly. Plants that have zero effluent violations for the calendar year receive Gold Awards. Plants that have fewer than five effluent violations receive Silver Awards. Returning clean water to the Delaware River has lead to the revitalization of the river and the growth of businesses along its bank.

Be sure to congratulate employees at all three plants for a job well done. Their hard work won them these renowned awards and boosts the Philadelphia Water Department as one of the most dedicated water utilities in the region.

NE Plant employees won a Silver Award! This is their second award in two years.

Employees of the SE Plant hold their heads high. They won a Gold Award!

---

## "THE ITSY BITSY SPIDER WENT UP THE WATER SPOUT."

**OK, you got me. This article is not about water spouts, but rather watersheds.**

**What is a watershed? We normally think of a watershed as the parks or land near a creek or river. However, rainwater that drains from all surrounding land (fields, parks, playgrounds, streets, lawns, parking lots, farms, shopping malls, homes, and athletic fields) to a river or creek is what makes up a watershed. This water may drain over land, under ground, by pipes, streams or creeks, to a river or creek that provides water for your daily needs.**

**It takes everyone's help to keep our water supply clean. Most of what goes down the drain goes into our streams and rivers. Our drinking water comes from these streams and rivers. Philadelphia is located within the Delaware River Watershed. There are seven other major watersheds within Philadelphia also: Cobbs Creek, Frankford Creek, Pennypack Creek, Poquessing Creek, Schuylkill River, Tacony Creek, and Wissahickon Creek.**

**Any of us who allow contaminants to enter stormwater drains are the biggest cause of dirty water in our watershed. Rainwater takes many things, including motor oil, fertilizers, cigarette butts, dog droppings, and trash, through the stormwater drains. These contaminants eventually find their way into our local streams and rivers, the same bodies of water where we get our drinking water. It takes more chemicals, time, and money to clean dirty water. Please do your part and help PWD keep contaminants from entering our storm drains. Your help will keep the quality of our water at its best while keeping costs at a minimum.**

**PWD is doing all it can to help keep our watersheds clean. We are taking steps to reduce the number of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO's), sewers that accept both rainwater from storm drains and wastewater from homes and businesses. If full, these CSO's drain into our streams and contaminate the water. PWD continuously improves how sewage is collected and treated. Also, we are starting public education campaigns to encourage a partnership with customers to help with our efforts. This includes mailing watershed information with water and sewer bills and the publication of a watershed newsletter for customers in Philadelphia's watersheds. Customers are already receiving these newsletters. In addition, groups and organizations may request a PWD employee to speak at their meetings.**

**Literature is available to anyone who would like more information about the importance of not littering and allowing contaminants into watersheds, making it easier for the Water Department to produce cleaner drinking water.**

**Help keep our water clean now and for generations to come:**

- ***Don't sweep or wash litter into stormwater drains.***
- ***Don't pour motor oil or any other chemicals into stormwater drains.***
- ***Do "scoop up" after pets.***
- ***Do use as little detergent as necessary when washing your car.***
- ***Do keep lawn and garden fertilizers off paved areas.***

**Remember —What goes down the drain shows up in our watersheds. With your help we can keep our watersheds, and our drinking water, as clean as possible.**

# pipe line

Philadelphia Water Department Employee Newsletter • Published by the Public Relations Unit • December 1996

## WORKING TOGETHER FOR BETTER WATER

*Among the participants in the Plant Operators' Training Program are (bottom row, l to r): Joseph Farrell, David Reynolds, Andrea Brown, Hallie Comer, Samuel Kochummen, Andrew Cottone. (top row, l to r): Gilbert Savior, Gerard Diem, Craig Smith, Lloyd Richardson, Kyle Hudson, Willie Floyd, John Walsh and Jacob Lau.*

Philadelphia Water Department

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The Water Department initiated a year-long program, Water Treatment Plant Operators' Training. During the program, plant operators and chemists discuss the processes and problems common to all three plants.

More than twelve employees from Queen Lane, Belmont and Baxter Water Treatment Plants exchange ideas about regulations, water treatment processes and daily operations. As a result, the employees gain new perspectives on how to handle problems with flocculation, filter performance, and many other issues.

The operators and chemists involved in the program all agree that it is a beneficial experience. "The information I receive at the training is very helpful and interesting," said Melvin Timbers from Queen Lane. "It is nice to hear the ideas of other operators and share insights on common problems."

## CONGRATS TO PAT!

The Pennsylvania One Call System, Inc. recently appointed Pasquale "Pat" Morelli to its Board of Directors. Pat, who is PWD's One Call Supervisor, will serve on the Board for four years. He represents the Water Department, ensuring regulations and procedures properly protect excavation workers and underground facilities throughout Pennsylvania. Pat is one of only four representatives from the water industry to serve on this 30-member board.

The Pennsylvania One Call System informs contractors, builders, and others who will be digging or blasting in the ground, to be cautious of underground pipes or cables. As required by Pennsylvania law, anyone digging must call the One Call System three working days before any kind of digging begins.

The One Call System informs people where these underground pipes and cables are located to prevent gas and water leaks, damage to communication systems (phone lines, cable TV, etc.), and interruptions in electrical services. Because a break can injure someone, damage property, or cause a preventable inconvenience, the One Call System is an easy and necessary way to ensure the public's safety.

# BACK IN THE CLASSROOM

PWD employees enrolled in the classes, with those involved in making it a possibility. Front Row/Left to Right: Michael Dennis, Rich Forcinito, Frank Francesco, Tom McCarthy, Michael Werner, Larry Green. Back Row/Left to Right: Shelia Ireland, Aldo Caporale, George Jones, Jerome Shabazz, Carl Bland, Gilberto Silva, Anthony Hearn, Rudolph Smith, Stewart Scott, Doug Barber, and Garvin Poole.
Not pictured: Larry Weston.

Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to school we go! PWD employees enrolled in three courses being offered by the Training Unit in conjunction with the Community College of Philadelphia (CCP). The courses include Introduction to Electronics, Introduction to Electricity, and Introduction to Digital Electronics.

The students gain hands-on experience at an electronics lab at CCP, along with standard lectures. Thirteen Water Department employees completed the Introduction to Electronics course and received certificates on November 4, 1996. Course two is underway and the students are hard at work.

Students, who attend all classes and earn a grade of "C" or better, receive Continuing Education Units which are recorded in a National Registry, but are not equivalent to academic credit. However, students that receive a grade of "B" or better and have two years' experience as an Electronic Technician, Instrumentation Technician, or higher level position, can take CCP's credit-by-examination test. Eligible students who decide to take the exam must pay $10.00 per exam.

Going back to school is not easy for anyone who has a family or holds a full-time job. Congratulations and good luck to all members of this program!

# 'Tis the Season

'Tis the season to remember the less fortunate. We take certain necessities in life for granted, including utilities. Utility services are year-round expenses, and during the winter, the cost of heat-related utility bills increases. These expenses can often push some families beyond the limit of what they can afford. This is why the<None> Philadelphia Water Department, Philadelphia Gas Works, and PECO Energy formed the Utility Emergency Services Fund (UESF).

UESF is Philadelphia's private, nonprofit energy assistance fund, which is available all year round to help low-income Philadelphia residents maintain or restore essential water, electric, or gas utility services. It was founded in 1983 by community and business leaders, city government, and Philadelphia utilities. Since then, UESF has provided more than 220,000 Philadelphia residents with $34 million in assistance.

UESF solicits funds from individuals, the corporate and religious communities, foundations, and city government. You can help by just clipping the coupon below to make a direct donation to UESF. This holiday season, help needy families rest in comfort, safe from the harsh grasp of winter.

Yes! I want to help less fortunate Philadelphians keep their water service and other utilities running and keep out the cold.

Amount Donated: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

☐ *Check if you would like more information on services provided by UESF or call UESF at 732-3111.*

***Please mail with your check or money order to: (DO NOT SEND CASH)***

**UESF**
1515 Market Street
Suite 622
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

*All donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.*

## holiday schedule 1997

**Wednesday, January 1** — New Year's Day

**Monday, January 20** — Martin Luther King Jr.'s Day

**Monday, February 17** — President's Day

**Friday, March 28** — Good Friday

**Monday, May 26** — Memorial Day

**Friday, July 4** — Independence Day

**Monday, September 1** — Labor Day

**Monday, October 13** — Columbus Day

**Tuesday, November 11** — Veteran's Day

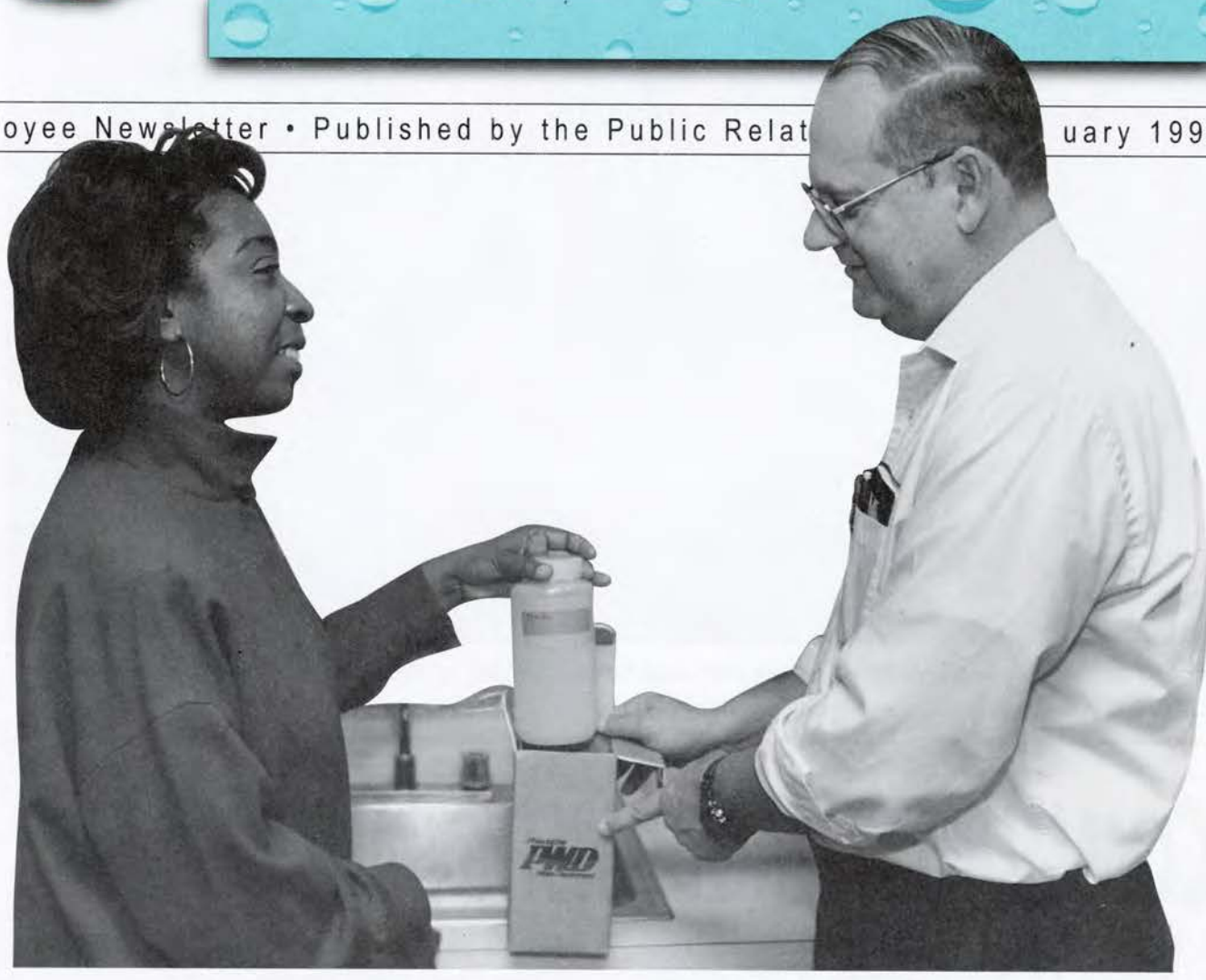
**Thursday, November 27** — Thanksgiving Day

**Thursday, December 25** — Christmas Day

# pipeline

Philadelphia Water Department Employee Newsletter • Published by the Public Relat uary 1997

## *lead free* $H_2O$



*Gerson Korntreger, Project Chemist from the Scientific & Regulatory Affairs Unit of the Bureau of Laboratory Services, helps Nia Abdul-Hameed prepare a water sample for PWD testing. He is responsible for showing customers how to take correct lead samples in their homes.*

Employees at PWD's Bureau of Laboratory Services initiated a lead sampling program in 1992 to comply with the Federal Lead and Copper Rule, and the Safe Drinking Water Act. In older neighborhoods lead pipes carried water into the homes. Over time, these pipes may deteriorate causing lead to leach to the water. There is no lead in Philadelphia's treated drinking water or in our water main system. However, there may be some present in the water as a result of old piping in homes.

In 1992, the Lead Sampling Task Team found unsafe lead levels in 15% of the homes in Philadelphia where water was tested. Therefore, PWD launched an extensive public education campaign. This campaign is to inform customers of the dangers of lead contamination in drinking water. It also provides tips on how they can reduce or eliminate the risk of lead contamination. After a second round of testing water samples from homes later in 1992, less than 10% had high lead levels.

Presently, the Lead Sampling Task Team is gearing up for another round of residential monitoring for 1997. PWD is contacting previous participants to volunteer again.

Gerson Korntreger, Project Chemist from the Scientific & Regulatory Affairs Unit of the Laboratory, will show participating homeowners how to take correct water samples. Specialists at our Lab will analyze two samples from each home and participants will receive results free of charge.

If you would like additional information about the Philadelphia Water Department's lead program, please contact Joan Przybylowicz, Public Relations Manager, 685-4900.

## SDWA: KEEPING CUSTOMERS INFORMED

Last year, the US Congress revised the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The Act requires water utilities to further improve the quality of drinking water, while also giving consumers more information about their local water supply.

One of the first changes you are likely to see is a "Consumer Confidence Report." This will include facts about our water sources and the health risks associated with water-borne contaminants. The report will list the levels of contaminants, such as radon, arsenic and sulfites, that might affect a person's health. While these specific contaminants are not a concern in Philadelphia's water, it is important for everyone to know about them and the health risks they pose.

Another change resulting from the Safe Drinking Water Act is the way in which water utilities will be reporting unusually high levels of contaminants. In the past, utilities would report high contaminant levels to the State, which would then decide whether the public would be notified. The SDWA states that water utilities must now notify the public within 24 hours when high levels of contaminants are found in the water.

The Philadelphia Water Department's main effort to comply with the SDWA will be the initiation of treatment plant projects on the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers. Each will take approximately three years to complete, with work set to begin in early 1997.

In the first phase of the projects, plant crews will try to find ways to make existing treatment methods even more effective. In the second phase, we will try new ways of treating the water, including the use of advanced filters and ozone. This will help the Water Department come up with new ways of ensuring the safest, cleanest drinking water possible for all Philadelphians.

Philadelphia PWD Water Department

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*Mark McLaughlin*

# DESIGN BRANCH REPLACES DRAFTING BOARDS WITH CADD SYSTEM

*Tom Kaufmann, Supervisor of the Water and Sewer Squad of the Design Branch, uses the CADD System to create contract drawings.*

The Design Branch of the Philadelphia Water Department replaced all of its drafting boards with a Computer Aided Drafting Design (CADD) System. The CADD System consists of 21 workstations, seven personal computers on the CADD network, and plotters. Employees who are using the CADD System had the opportunity to participate in a week-long training course.

"We are saving a tremendous amount of time and energy which increases the output of our work," said Tom Kaufmann, Supervisor of the Sewer and Water Squad of the Design Branch. "Using the libraries and programs developed by the Design Branch, the creation of water and sewer main contract drawings has become a very efficient process."

The PWD's Design Branch is responsible for engineering support of the entire network of piping and facilities that make up our water and sewer systems. By creating these contract documents, they can make changes and improvements to the water and sewer mains that compose PWD's infrastructure. With these new technological options, the Design Branch is able to move into the forefront and continue to expand its capabilities. This, in turn, helps PWD provide its customers with the first-rate service they have come to count on.

# COMMUNITY GROUP VISITS BAXTER PLANT

In December, the Water Quality Communication Community Advisory Committee (CAC) toured the Baxter Water Treatment Plant. The CAC, comprised of representatives from various environmental advocacy groups, large area industries, the Schuylkill River Keepers, and various civic and senior citizens' associations, held its first meeting in October at the recommendation of the Philadelphia Water Department's own Water Quality Committee. Its mission is to provide guidance to the Water Department in developing materials and public outreach campaigns for drinking water quality issues.

According to Joanne Dahme, General Manager of Public Affairs for the Water Department, "We are very pleased at the level of interest and commitment shown by the members of the Water Quality Communication CAC. It is a big help to know that the citizens of Philadelphia are concerned with, and motivated by, the same health and safety issues as we are."

*Members of the Water Quality Communication Community Advisory Committee look on as Kathryn Ellis Guest, Baxter Plant Manager, explains the drinking water treatment process.*

## PWD DONATES FUNDS TO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

***Thanks to Holiday Luncheon co-organizers, Norma Lewis and Charles Zitomer of Water Conveyance, and Gilda Gates of Load Control, the Philadelphia Water Department donated $453.00 to the Children's Hospital Foundation. This money helped to brighten the holidays for the young patients of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.***

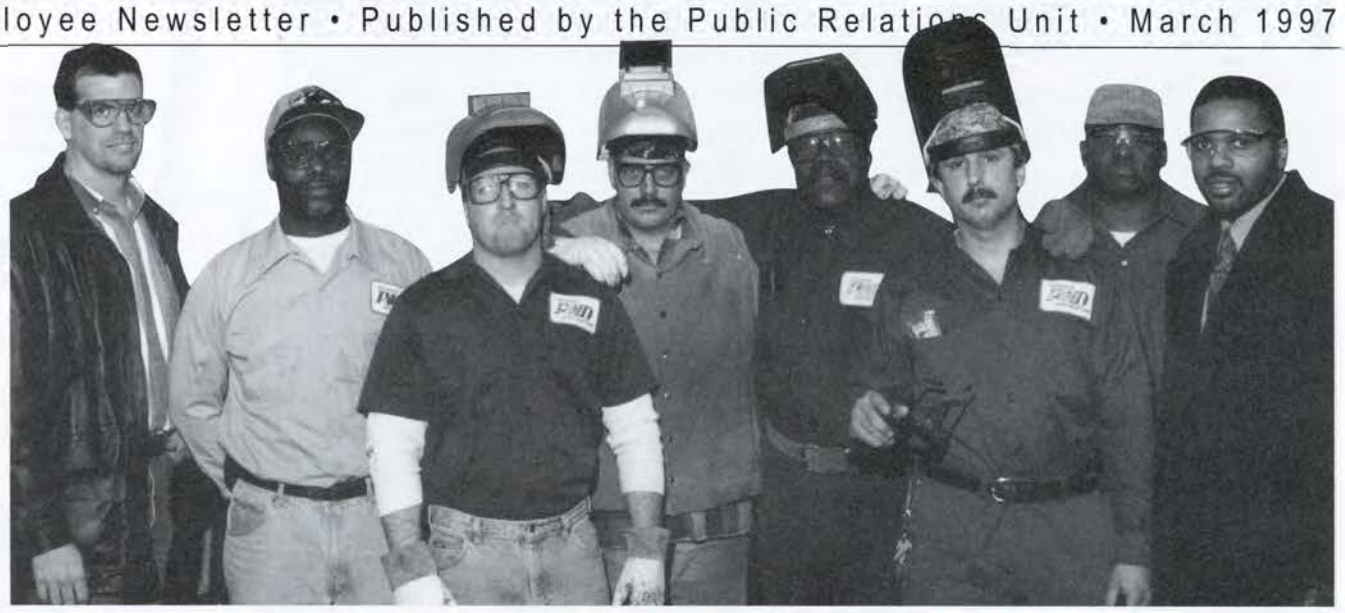
In addition to those mentioned in last month's Pipeline article entitled "Working Together for Better Water," the following employees are also participating in the Water Treatment Plant Operators Training Program: Thomas Green, Jim Mayo, Raymond Wasko, Ron Cain, Larry Harfman, Steve Malloy, Frank Cartwright, Thomas Galka, Richard Hagerty, Terrence McNally, Jim Kreywicki, Scott Martin, Enowu Rhee, Vincent Sabella, Albert Murray, Louis Williams, William Martin, Curtis Pickney, Timothy Laigaie, Ronald Jenkins, Tim Galie, Ahmed Ali, Elizabeth Chacko, Leon Randalls, Gilberto Silva, Rodney Bennett, Melvin Timbers, Joseph Cmiel, Michael Ebner, and Julius Reese.

# pipeline

Philadelphia Water Department Employee Newsletter • Published by the Public Relations Unit • March 1997

## ALL FIRED UP!

The Philadelphia Water Department's Training Unit, in conjunction with the Industrial Training and Testing Institute (ITTI) and Community College of Philadelphia, offered Biosolids



*From left to right: Paul Day, Sherman Harris, Mike Fallon, Bruce Meskill, Morris Willis, Christopher Nichols, Chester Turner and Jerome Shabazz.*

*During the welder training course, BRC employees received hands-on instruction, helping them to perfect their skills.*

Recycling Center employees a Welder Training course. From January 7 to February 13, 1997, participating employees attended 96 hours of training on various subjects including shielded metal, gas metal and gas tungsten arc welding.

This is the second training course offered through the Philadelphia Water Department and the Community College of Philadelphia during the past two months. In December's *Pipeline*, we highlighted the Water Treatment Plant Operators' Training program, a successful and beneficial experience for trades personnel from various units within PWD. Jerome Shabazz, PWD's training assistant for trades, hopes to see the same success evolve from this Welder Training course.

On February 13, the Training Unit awarded certificates of completion to the employees who successfully met the requirements of this course. Christopher Nichols, a Biosolids Recycling Center employee, felt that the course improved his welding skills and made his job easier. "The hands-on experience which the course provided had greater benefit for me than just learning from books," he said. "It gave me more self-confidence in my work." Sherman Harris, maintenance group supervisor, agrees, "I have great confidence in the accuracy of my employees' work, and I can trust their ability to do a precise job at all times."

The Water Department hopes to continue collaborating with Community College of Philadelphia in developing future training courses. Look for more about these training courses in future issues of *Pipeline*.

## IN FULL BLOOM WITH PWD

The 1997 Philadelphia Flower Show is in full bloom at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, March 2-9. The Water Department's exhibit, entitled "Biosolids Recycling: The Ultimate Exchange Between People, Places, and Plants," will be displayed. The exhibit shows the benefits of using recycled biosolids for enhancing and restoring soil. It also shows the natural science behind recycling biosolids collected from the wastewater treatment process.

This exhibit helps visitors understand how Philadelphians can return essential organic matter and nutrients, lost through farming or disturbed by mining, to poor soils. They will also learn how to use recycled biosolids products to enhance the soil in their own flower and vegetable gardens. The Flower Show continues to be a huge attraction for both visitors and PWD employees. This year, many PWD employees have volunteered to help make the Water Department's exhibit among the most attractive and informative.

This year's exhibit highlights the three main applications for recycled biosolids. These are MineMix™, which builds soil productivity in mine reclamation; Farm+™, a farmland fertilizer; and EarthMate, a soil amendment which conditions turf and rejuvenates vegetable and flower gardens. These products, especially EarthMate, are used by many organizations in the Philadelphia area, including the new CoreStates Center, the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, Awbury Arboretum, the 1300 Thompson Street Block Association and George Washington High School.

*PWD's exhibit at last year's Philadelphia Flower Show was a great success thanks to the hard work of employees and volunteers.*

EarthMate helps to provide safe, attractive turf, healthy green grass, and beautiful blooming flowers like those on display at the Flower Show. If you would like the same results from your flower or vegetable garden, visit the Water Department's exhibit at the Flower Show, get a free bag of EarthMate, and watch your garden grow.

Philadelphia Water Department

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Spotlight on:

# Sewer Maintenance

**The winter weather doesn't keep the Sewer Maintenance Unit employees home with the blues. Instead, they don their PWD blues and brave the cold to respond to sewer and damaged inlet problems. If a sewer pipe breaks or clogs, or a water main break damages a sewer, one of PWD's 27 Sewer Maintenance crews will be out to fix the problem.**

**Headquartered at PWD's Fox and Abbottsford facility, Sewer Maintenance is one of the Department's busiest units, especially during winter months. Constant freezing and thawing during the winter makes water mains more prone to breaking. This can mean more work for Sewer Maintenance employees if sewers near a water main break are damaged.**

**One of the top priorities of the Sewer Maintenance Division is making sure that sewer clogs and ruptures don't cause sewage to back up into homes or waterways. Working with the Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and Game Commission and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Sewer Maintenance does all it can to ensure that our neighborhoods and waterways are clean and free of polluting sewage.**

*Sewer Maintenance Superintendent Richard Goode praises his employees for their hard work and dedication.*

**Superintendent Richard Goode manages the 165 employees in the Water Department's Sewer Maintenance Unit. These employees inspect inlets and repair problems occurring in the City's 3,000 miles of sewers. Because it functions primarily as a complaint driven unit, Sewer Maintenance employees respond to calls from customers, the Streets, Recreation, and Police Departments, as well as other agencies. No matter how cold the weather, Sewer Maintenance crews are always there to examine and fix sewer and inlet problems as they arise.**


*A Sewer Maintenance crew works hard on a snowy day to fix a crumbling sewer wall in Northwest Philadelphia.*

**According to Richard Goode, the Sewer Maintenance Unit has its fair share of unusual and difficult assignments. Occasionally, they are contacted to locate a ring or other small item that falls into the sewer. Other times they fix badly clogged inlets if there is structural damage. Still other times, they fix deteriorating sewers. But, even after all of this, Goode says, "I take a great deal of pride in my employees and they take tremendous pride in their jobs. We have never had a job, no matter how difficult or dirty, that they weren't prepared and willing to do."**

Mr. Ernest Poaches, Metering Manager
Philadelphia Water Department
Metering Unit
29th & Cambria Streets
Philadelphia, PA 19132

Dear Mr. Poaches:

It is not often that a meter person comes into our facility to service our needs, be it gas, electric or water, and display the pleasant treatment that I received from Gregory Ewell on November 1, 1996. This young man entered our facility at Rittenhouse Care Center to check an old meter for replacement. He was very informative and a true gentleman to form. I appreciate this type of professionalism and attention to customer service. Please thank him for a job well done!

Sincerely,
Paul Barksdale, Director of Environmental Services
Rittenhouse Care Center

Dear Commissioner Kishinchand:

It is both appropriate and ironic that I am writing this letter of thanks to you in the midst of a tremendous rain storm, our arch nemesis for the past 19 summers. This is the first summer since we've been in residence here that severe rains haven't sent several feet of rank water coursing through our garages and basements. This is the first time we haven't had to scurry about to move our cars out of our garages onto the street where there was far less chance of them being inundated. This is the first time we haven't had to prop open our back basement doors, allowing the rushing water to continue on its way.

This new-found peace of mind is the result of an extensive storm flood relief project just completed under the auspices of your department. This project, now in place and operating, was designed by your most competent staff of engineers, including Stan Carter. The project's Engineering Supervisors Eugene Mudry and Jeff Simmet took a very difficult set of conditions and created a system that has "weathered the storm" marking its maiden voyage. I really feel the need to cite others of your staff as well. Joanne Dahme, your Public Affairs General Manager, was my contact person, and too frequently, the recipient of my wrath each time the properties flooded. She was always extremely tolerant of my behavior, always promising to do her utmost to conclude the problem. And she did!

John Mirkil came to the site countless times, during and after storms, to see the havoc and damage the rains had wrought. Your on-site manager, Bud McKeogh, was attentive to every detail and kept us, the residents, apprised of the project's course. To show his attention to "bring in a perfect job" I can report that he visited the project site several times since its completion to check on its operation.

Now, when it rains, we can trust that our properties and houses are safe. This storm flood relief project has made a tremendous difference to all of us and we are very appreciative of the hard-working Water Department employees that made this possible. Each of these people has done a job above and beyond the ordinary and we, the residents of Rennard Street in the far Northeast, are especially grateful to them.

Very truly yours,
Barbara Z.

*TOP ROW:*
***Gregg Ewell***
*Water Meter Service Worker, Metering Unit*
***Bud McKeogh***
*Construction Projects Technician II, Construction Unit*
***Eugene Mudry***
*Engineering Supervisor II, Water and Sewer Systems Planning Unit*

*MIDDLE ROW:*
***Stan Carter***
*Engineering Aide III, Design Unit*
***John Mirkil***
*Civil Engineer II, Design Unit*

*BOTTOM ROW:*
***Jeff Simmet***
*Engineering Supervisor I, Water and Sewer*
***Joanne Dahme***
*General Manager, Public Affairs Division*

 

# pipeline

Philadelphia Water Department Employee Newsletter • Published by the Public Relations Unit • April 1997

# CELEBRATE WATER!

***May is going to be an exciting month for the Water Department, as we will be participating in two week-long celebrations, Drinking Water Week, May 4 - 10, and National River Cleanup Week, May 10 - 17. The celebrations are geared to foster a partnership between the Philadelphia Water Department and our customers. By working together to protect and conserve water, the partnership will ensure that the future of drinking water is crystal clear!***

## DRINKING WATER WEEK, MAY 4-10

The Philadelphia Water Department, along with water purveyors internationally, will be celebrating Drinking Water Week. During this week, water purveyors are sponsoring activities to let customers know how we secure, treat and deliver clean, safe drinking water to them, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It's also a great opportunity for our customers to learn more about their drinking water and what they can do to conserve and protect our most precious natural resource.

To kickoff the week, the Philadelphia Water Department will be conducting walking tours of several natural and urban watersheds, along with several community watershed groups.

As of this printing, we have confirmed separate tours in these watersheds:

### Saturday, May 3, 10:00 a.m.

**Schuylkill River Direct**
**Tacony Creek**
**Wissahickon Creek**

### Saturday, May 3, 1:00 p.m.

**Poquessing Creek**
**Upper Schuylkill River**

If you would like to take a tour of one of these watersheds, call the Water Department's Hotline at 685-6300. **Reservations are required.** We'll need your name, address and phone number to let you know where the starting locations of each tour will begin. Let us know how many guests will be with you. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Remember to wear comfortable shoes and clothes.

The walking tours will begin at a church or community center in each neighborhood and follow a sewer drainage path, focusing on the urban watershed. The tours will end at a local creek or river, focusing on the natural watershed. Tours will last two hours.

## CLEAN WATER BEGINS AND ENDS WITH YOU!!

## NATIONAL RIVER CLEANUP WEEK, MAY 10-17

For years, rivers and watersheds have been used as dumps for old appliances, shopping carts and other refuse. Litter floats into a waterway from street gutters and builds up along the shoreline and can stay there for years.

While the Clean Water Act and industry efforts have helped remove pollutants from many streams, no one has the sole responsibility to remove years of accumulated trash and refuse from streams. That's where you come in. You can do your part to clean up our waterways. Many local community groups are sponsoring cleanups in Philadelphia on May 17. Get involved and be a part of river cleanups taking place nationally on this day.

### Saturday, May 17, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

**Join the Philadelphia Water Department for a Clean-Up, Green-Up on the Fairmount Water Works' Esplanade with Philadelphia Cares volunteers for "Fairmount Park Day." The Fairmount Water Works Esplanade is located at Aquarium and Kelly Drives, along the banks of the Schuylkill River. To volunteer, call 685-6300.**

### Saturday, May 17, 1:00 p.m.

**View "A Very Great Nusance (sic)," in the Watering Committee Building at the Fairmount Water Works.**

Ed Grusheski, Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center Director, will present this slide lecture on the long and murky history of Philadelphia's sewer system. Ed will bring the city's "hidden rivers" into the light, revealing a subject that is too often ignored.

Philadelphia Water Department

**Editor**
*Joan Przybylowicz*
**Graphic Designer**
*Raymond Kempinski*

# DRINKING WATER WEEK

## MAY 4th to MAY 10th 1997


***Help keep the future of drinking water crystal clear.***

Learn the source of your drinking water. Find out what activities occur in these areas that may contaminate your drinking water.

Take your motor oil and other toxic automobile fluids to a service station that advertises collection for reprocessing. A single quart of motor oil can pollute 250,000 gallons of water.

Participate in the cleanup of areas surrounding your water source.

Get involved in decisions that affect the management and quality of your drinking water. Attend public meetings where quality and quantity discussions of water take place.

Run your tap until the water is cold before using it for drinking or cooking if you suspect you have lead plumbing or leaded solder in your home.