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Ideas

FOR A BETTER



SELECTED BY THE STAFF OF THE
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EDITED BY MARY BUSH

JAN 23 1963

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IDEAS FOR A BETTER CITY

Selected by the Staff of the
Municipal Technical Advisory Service
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Edited by Mary Bush

MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE
(DIVISION OF UNIVERSITY EXTENSION)
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Knoxville, Tennessee / 1963
in cooperation with the

TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

January 1963

FOREWORD

MTAS receives virtually all periodicals in the field of municipal government and also obtains many other publications in this field. In the aggregate these contain a "mass of information" (when trying to sift, classify and assimilate, we sometimes wish it were much less in quantity!). These materials are routed to staff members for their examination; in this process they mark any items that appear to be noteworthy, and Mrs. Bush writes the summaries for this publication.

The drawings in this edition are reprinted from the Maricopa County (Arizona) Annual Budget 1962-1963.

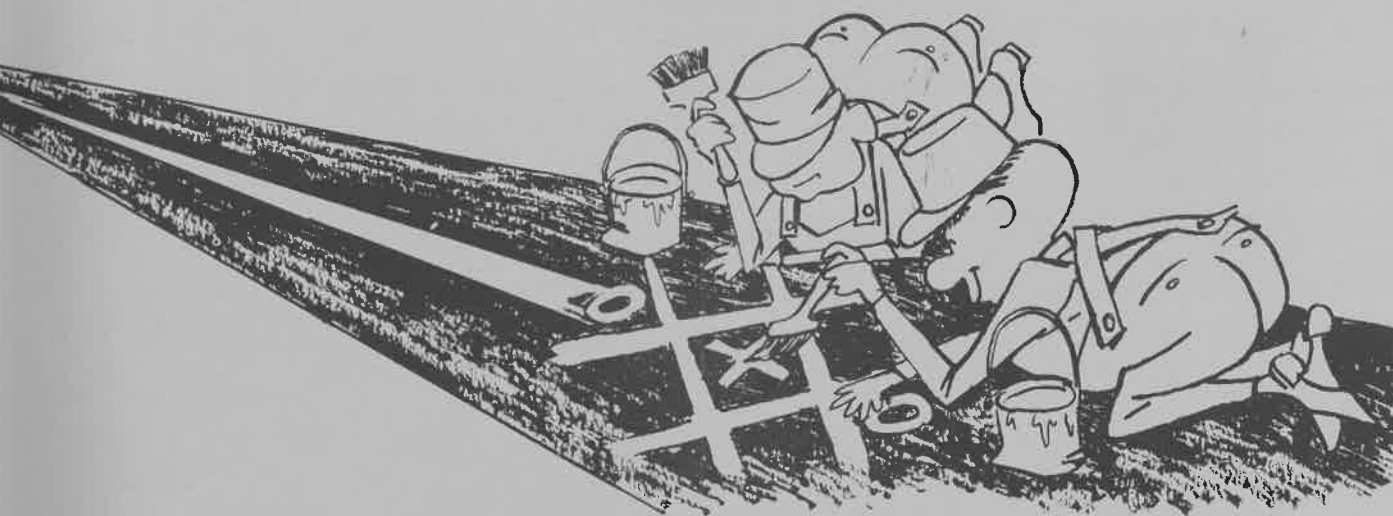
We hope that this "catalog of municipal ideas" will be useful to the officials of cities and towns in Tennessee and elsewhere.

Victor C. Hobday
Executive Director

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Public Works



PUBLIC WORKS

Some 65,000 gallons of used motor oil was spread on unpaved streets in Kingsport, Tennessee, in the two-year period 1960-61. This oil was purchased by the property owners having property fronting on the streets needing this service and was placed there by the public works department personnel. (Kingsport Progress Report, 1960-61)

Provision for a guaranteed maintenance contract was incorporated in specifications for bids on motor graders in Albany, Georgia. The city suggested that the maintenance contract period be four years and that in lieu of bidding on the maintenance feature, \$2,500 would be added in consideration of bids for award purposes. (The Municipal South, August 1962)

Blackboards cut design and drafting costs in a Chicago engineering office. Designs are developed on wall-sized blackboards and then are photographed. Originally 78 per cent of the company's engineering time was spent on layout, detailing and revisions; drafting time using blackboards instead of drawing boards has been cut to 34 per cent. (Engineering News-Record, December 21, 1961)

A diesel-powered street sweeper has replaced the conventional sweeper equipped with gasoline engine in Chicago. In the first six months of operation, average cost was \$37.80 per month compared to \$52.50 for the same type of gasoline-powered sweeper. (Public Works, January 1962)

A city-owned asphalt plant in The Dalles, Oregon, has caused a savings of approximately 20 per cent in the cost of road-paving materials. The plant has dryers fueled with liquefied petroleum gas. (Public Works, January 1962)

Pre-cast concrete slabs are being considered for repairing pavement cuts in Memphis. The slab would be placed and asphalt-covered at the same time. (Street Engineering, July 1962)

Velsipave is a new, synthetic bitumen that produces a colored paving material that can be used over new or existing asphalt or cement pavements. According to the manufacturer, it is easy to install, gives a wide wearing surface that is easy to maintain, inexpensive, and has low temperature properties that are superior to those of grade "A" asphalt. (Velsicol Chemical Corporation, 300 East Grand Avenue, Chicago 11, Illinois)

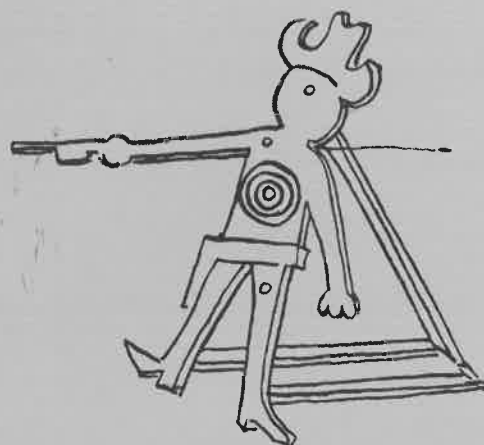
Postmen make excellent pothole inspectors, Philadelphia reports. The city's mail carriers were asked to check their routes and to report pothole locations on index cards furnished by the city and

turned in at the end of the day. The City Streets Commission has received 565 cards covering all city mail routes, and repairs are being expedited as a result of the "inspection." (American Municipal News, April 28, 1962)

An affidavit of non-collusion is contained in an advertisement for bids on a public works project in Savannah, Tennessee. Every bidder or agent must sign the agreement attesting that he has not entered into an agreement with any person relative to the price to be bid.

An "underwalk" utility plan is being evaluated in Oakland, California. This new method calls for locating all utilities--gas, water, storm drain, and sewer lines--under the sidewalk so there will be a minimum of traffic and street dislocation. The plan also calls for electrical facilities, including telephone, fire alarm and street light circuits to go under both sidewalks, in three-foot wide trenches dug before the sidewalks are installed. (Illinois Municipal Review, May 1962)

Police & Fire



POLICE AND FIRE

Women are learning judo in Montgomery, Pennsylvania. It was suggested by the town safety council that the women of the community should learn judo, or at least a series of basic defensive and offensive holds, to defend themselves. The initial course, called "The Gentle Art of Self-Defense for Women," was so well attended that additional classes were set up. "This course," according to one lady, "gives a woman confidence. I think the course is a 'must' for girls in the teenage group who many times come home late from school games, sorority meetings, or other similar activities." (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, November 1961)

A "hidden" radar unit which cannot be spotted by passing motorists is now in use in the City of Knoxville. The new unit is a type that operates with an antenna-like device and another device that resembles a spotlight, eliminating the black box that the public has learned to recognize as a radar unit. (Knoxville News-Sentinel, October 25, 1961)

An emergency water supply for fire fighting can be found in backyard swimming pools. During regular fire prevention inspection periods in Covina, California, a list is made of these pools together with an inspection to detect unsafe pools. No one has drowned in these pools since this program was inaugurated. (The American City, August 1962)

The preferred fire department listing, according to the National Fire Protection Association, should show the fire department in three different places in the telephone directory: on the front page with other emergency numbers, alphabetically both under "F" for fire department and under the name of the community. (National Fire Protection Association News Release)

Closed circuit television is being tested in Hoboken, New Jersey, as a means of aiding police in fighting crime and handling traffic. The square mile city with parallel major avenues is ideally suited for the experiment. The plan calls for a large monitor board located in police headquarters, manned by around-the-clock alert. The monitor will project images transmitted by television cameras perched atop the city's tallest buildings. The cameras are not intended to replace conventional police forces, but rather to supplement their work. Once a crime is detected, policemen can be detailed to any part of the city within seconds. The cameras, still trained on the offender, can direct the patrolman's pursuit by radio communication. (New Jersey Municipalities, October 1962)

Police officers who direct traffic on dark streets in Memphis will wear bright orange and white vests, enabling motorists to see them better. (The Municipal South, November 1961)

Firemen tag violators of fire department codes and ordinances in Minneapolis. This new method of enforcement of fire safety regulations is aimed at "stopping fires before they start." Tagging violators is not the only modern technique used by the Fire Prevention Bureau; they have lie detectors, fingerprinting equipment and a complete photographic laboratory. While this equipment is used primarily to investigate deliberately set fires, the bureau conducts extensive training and educational programs in hospitals, schools and industrial plants. (National Fire Protection Association Release)

A new burglar alarm system will be installed in Skokie, Illinois, with permission of the FCC, that automatically reports to police headquarters via two-way radio. The system includes an electronic decoding device at police headquarters with a digital decoder and printer. At the building or property to be protected a radio transmitter sends out a short burst of coded tones which are transmitted automatically to police headquarters and translated by the decoder. A number simultaneously is printed on a tape. This number shows the location of the particular transmitter so that the police dispatcher can send the nearest patrol car to the scene. The decoding equipment can handle up to 290 separate transmitters which can be activated by door switches, photoelectric cells, and other devices. (Public Management, December 1961)

Reduction in maintenance costs of police transportation equipment has resulted from using fuel and oil additives. A study made by the Denver Department of General Services in connection with police maintenance garages indicated that use of an automatic transmission additive reduced repairs on transmissions over 50 per cent. A possible side value of using these additives may be that equipment using the supplements will emit less hydrocarbon, thus alleviating the air pollution problem. (Minnesota Municipalities, October 1961)

Parking meter looting may be prevented by a new burglar alarm system. When the thief opens a "bugged" parking meter, a light flashes in the police radio room showing the block in which the robber is operating. When the system was installed on a trial basis in Spokane, Washington, the alarm led to several quick arrests. The result was that meter collections in that city jumped more than \$8,000 in two months. (Knoxville News-Sentinel, November 7, 1961)

Prefabricated cages in the rear of patrol cars furnish safety for the police officer as well as security for prisoners in Pompano Beach, Florida. A metal cage is placed immediately in the rear of the front seat and around the side windows on both sides of the rear seat. The cage is painted the same color as the interior of the car, and door handles are removed to prevent the prisoner from opening the door. In one instance, a patrol car was involved in an accident, causing it to overturn several times with a prisoner in the rear seat. The prisoner was not injured as a result of the cage which reinforced both the sides and rear of the car. (Traffic Safety, September 1961)

Flying city police save many man hours in Memphis. Most of the trips made by the police in their city-owned twin-engine plane are to pick up prisoners or suspects arrested in another city and wanted by Memphis police. Commercial airlines don't like to have prisoners for passengers and their rules forbid handcuffing them. Fuel for the plane is tax free because it is municipal property. (The Commercial Appeal, December 2, 1961)

A water-screen device, designed by firemen of Sioux City, Iowa, will protect structures from fire which is raging only a few feet away. One of two frame buildings five feet apart on a 40-foot lot can be completely burned down without blistering the paint of the other by simply erecting such a water screen between them. Anyone handy with a welding torch can make the hose attachment. It consists of a foot-long three-inch steel tube with a plate closing one end and a two and one-half female coupling affixed to the other end. A 10-inch slit three-fourths inch wide is cut along the top of the tube. To get the fan-like effect, two steel half-circle plates are welded upright onto the tube on each side of the slit and a piece of regular motorcycle chain is welded between and along the top curved edges of the plates. The water is forced through the chain which in effect is a row of jet holes. The tube is welded onto two strips of angle iron at right angles to serve as a base. (Iowa Municipalities, October 1961)

"Vital Air," emergency medical oxygen, is recommended by the manufacturer as an essential item to be carried in police cruisers. It is ready for instant use from the sphere container, which holds more than a one-hour supply of oxygen. (Albert W. Pendergast Safety Equipment Co., 6913 Tulip Street, Philadelphia 35, Pa.)

A group alerting system, working through a community's present telephone system, can save money, time, and lives. Group alerting is a new communication system, designed by Southern Bell, which will summon volunteer firemen immediately to the scene of an emergency. With this system, depressing a key on the dispatching telephone simultaneously rings the home or business telephone of volunteer or paid firemen. Firemen get precise directions without first reporting to a central location for information. This system lessens the possibility of traffic jams at the firehouse and at the scene of the emergency. Twelve Tennessee communities have installed the group alerting system for better fire protection.

An unmarked "speeder" police car recently went into service in Memphis, Tennessee. The problem of effectively camouflaging the car while it is on the road, but making it readily identifiable as a police car when an arrest is made passed both tests with flying colors. The car looks like any other white sedan until a violator is spotted. Then a siren under the hood is switched on, a flashing red light is taken from under the dash and placed in the front window, and a neon sign bearing the word "Police" is folded down from the sun visor. (Commercial Appeal, July 19, 1962)

A helicopter used by Seattle police during the summer has already "paid for itself" in work performed. The helicopter crew spotted a robber's get-away car and directed police to his position for arrest. They relayed information about an open door on a department store roof to patrolmen who surprised a burglar inside. Other accomplishments of the helicopter crew were emergency rescue of boatmen, photographing crime scenes, extinguishing a fire in a hard-to-reach section of a forest with a downdraft of the rotor blades, surveying a pipe line, and controlling traffic. (The Nebraska Municipal Review, March 1962)

Fires inaccessible to firemen can be extinguished by a new type of heavy foam which, under pressure, can climb stairs and put out fires. The thick foam, a mixture of water and a chemical agent, is highly effective in smothering and cooling fires hard to get to from the outside. (Memphis Commercial Appeal, February 27, 1962)

Fire plugs have a color code in Bristol, Tennessee, with the hydrants one color and the caps another. The caps, colored red, blue, or green, will immediately tell a fireman how much water can be expected from the plug in case of fire. The different colors will represent the water flow, or gallons per minute, which can be produced by the hydrant, and if a certain fire needs a lot of water, firemen will know which plug to use first. (Bristol Herald Courier, June 26, 1962)

Liquefied petroleum gas has cut fuel and maintenance costs on police patrol cars in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. Fuel savings alone run \$200 a year on the liquefied petroleum gas cars, and maintenance costs have been cut 25 per cent. The cost-cutting benefits have been accomplished without sacrificing speed. (The Municipal South, December 1961)

The drunk-o-meter now being used by the Nashville Police Department has reduced by 90 per cent the number of cases involving drunkenness which have to be tried before a jury. This has saved the taxpayers the big expense of trial costs. Fines last year on pleas of guilty after drunk-o-meter tests totaled \$54,365. (The Nashville Tennessean, January 25, 1962)

Radio-equipped cars can be a potential death trap if proper precaution is not taken. A policeman was killed when a spark from his radio-equipped cruiser ignited escaping fumes from a gasoline can in the trunk of the car beside one of the radio transmitters. All personnel operating radio-equipped cars should be warned against storing flammable liquids in the trunks of their cars. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, April 1962)

Jeeps are being tested for patrolling downtown traffic in Philadelphia. They are sturdy little cars and are especially useful for burglary-control work in narrow downtown back alleys at night. During fair weather, the jeeps will be operated without tops to allow maximum visibility. Canvas tops and sides may be added for service during bad weather. (The American City, February 1962)

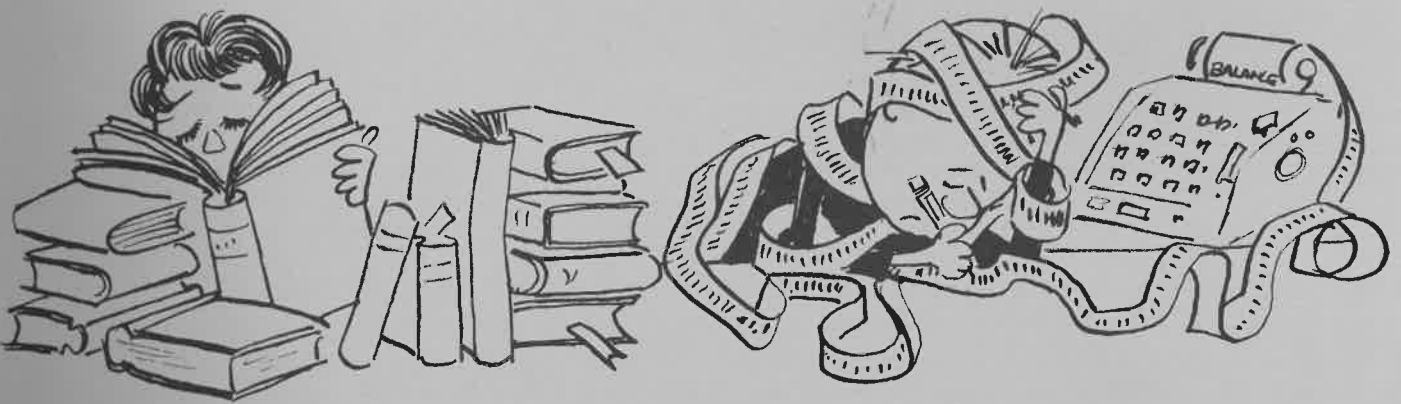
"The Citizen's Part in Crime and Accident Prevention" is the title of a pamphlet issued by the police department of Statesville, North Carolina. The pamphlet lists many useful suggestions for businessmen, housewives, and school children, who, if they fully cooperate with their local police department in following the rules and suggestions set forth, can substantially reduce the number of crimes and accidents in their community. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, May 1962)

A safety code for baby-sitters is furnished to parents in Statesville, North Carolina. A card prepared by the local Crime Prevention Council and sent to parents gives fire and police phone numbers and space for entering those of a relative or friend, the doctor, and where parents will be. It features a set of rules furnished by the police department, which has agreed to supply any information they have about persons recommended as baby-sitters, whom the parents do not know personally. (The Maine Townsman, January 1962)

The Shrewsbury Desk, a compact, attractive, rigidly constructed car-seat desk enables the motorized police officer to remain alert and "on target." The desk is designed to fit snugly in the center of the front seat of the patrol car, convenient to the right arm of the officer. It is equipped with clip board, with shielded night light, compartment for forms and records, and filing trays. A control panel fitted on the front section of the desk contains toggle switches and pilot lights for siren, radio, flasher light, desk light or other accessories. (Hughes Engineering & Manufacturing Co., Inc., Box 48, Red Bank, New Jersey)

A women's fire brigade has been organized in Del Mar, California, which has resulted in savings to citizens. This organization differs from the normal women's auxiliaries in that its purpose is to provide the fire department with assistance in fire prevention during emergencies. The women are trained in fire fighting, first aid, and the use of the radio system operated by the department. (Western City, March 1962)

Finance & Taxation



FINANCE AND TAXATION

A toll gate for taxicabs at the Memphis airport has increased revenue threefold. The toll gate was installed last spring, replacing an agreement whereby the two cab companies each paid monthly rental for stands in front of the terminal. (Commercial Appeal, February 9, 1962)

Inventory items are being purchased on bids by the City of Oak Ridge, under contracts which guarantee the price of the items for one year. (City Managers' News Letter, September 15, 1962)

"What About My New Assessment?" is the title of a booklet which accompanied notices of increased valuation to property owners in Waco, Texas. The booklet provides brief explanations of the purposes of city property taxes, how the reassessment is being conducted, how property values are determined, what market value means, and the effect on individual property taxes. City officials met with representatives of news media, real estate, and banking to explain the program. Although 2,800 notices of increases were mailed out, only 204 persons appealed to the local board of equalization. (Public Management, September 1962)

A Sidewalk Appeal Board has been created in Memphis to hear appeals from homeowners who have been ordered to build sidewalks. Some 2,000 sidewalk "skips" exist in the city. The city has authority to order residents to install sidewalks. If they fail to comply, the city can install them with city personnel and add the cost to tax bills. This might result in hardship cases. The Sidewalk Appeal Board will hear the cases and determine whether hardship exists and whether delays should be granted. (The Commercial Appeal, September 12, 1962)

Scrap metal sold at public auction recently enriched the treasury of the City of Phoenix, Arizona, by more than \$40,000. This price was paid by bidders for scrap metal and 69 pieces of automotive equipment. The city sells each item of equipment on the spot, as is, to the highest bidder. The city gains financially by this method as well as disposing of unwanted cars, trucks, and scrap. (The American City, December 1961)

Installation of telephone booths on city-owned property in Memphis is expected to produce additional revenue for the city budget. Southern Bell has agreed to pay the city 15 per cent of its gross receipts from the booths. Plans call for an initial installation of 12 booths with a gradual increase to 100 on sidewalks throughout the city. (Memphis Commercial Appeal, May 3, 1962)

Revisions in the \$12,000,000, five-year capital improvements program in the City of Mesquite, Texas, were made by some 200 citizens who acted at the invitation of the City Council. Divided into four groups corresponding to phases of the program, the citizens studied proposed improvements in the street system, parks and recreation, public buildings, and water and sewer facilities. (Texas Town & City, December 1961)

An assessment system in the City of Oporto (Portugal) was described as follows in the British Town Planning Review in 1916: "Every building owner assesses his own property and is rated on that assessment, it being known that the Municipality has, at any time, the right to purchase any property at a value arrived at by capitalizing the assessment on which rates have been paid at 20 years' purchase. The result of this is that no one under-assesses the value of his property, for he knows that if he does this the Municipality may buy it cheap, and no one over-assesses the value of his property--with a view to obtaining a big price should the Municipality purchase it--because this would entail his paying high rates. . . ." (The Listening Post, August 1962)

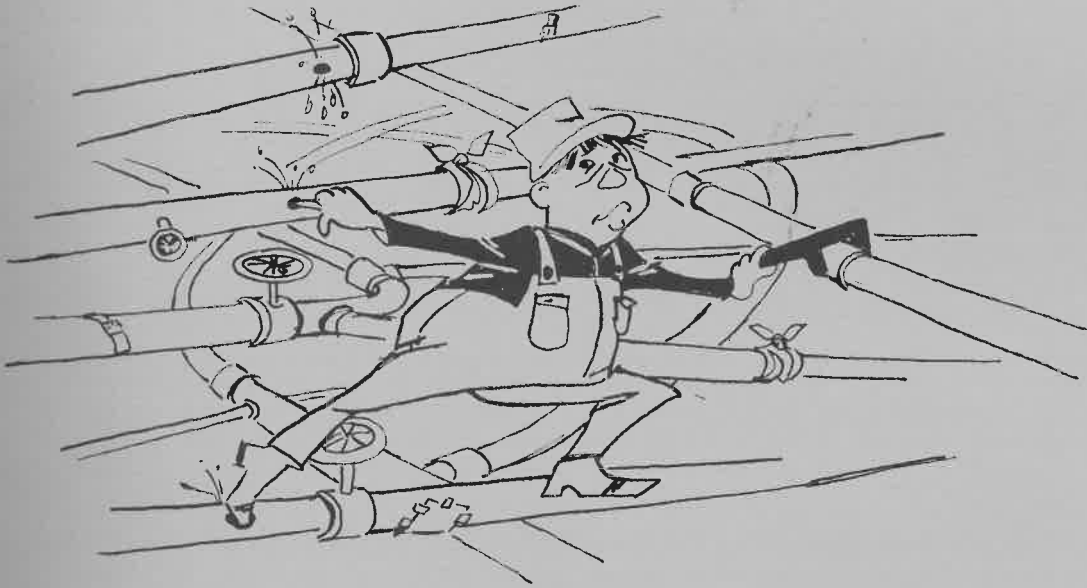
Advertising bond sales is a matter of selling the credit of the community to the potential bidders. According to the head of one bond buying firm, good, carefully prepared information should be distributed well ahead of the time bonds are planned to be sold so that a desire will be created, on the part of the potential investors, to see offerings of the municipality that might be available. He suggested that a good, attractive, well printed annual report be prepared that really tells the story financially and in every other way about your city. Send it to investment bankers, banks, insurance companies, and the rating services. Enclose a covering letter asking for comments and criticisms. (Municipal Finance, August 1961)

Waste paper collected in Memphis will enrich the city treasury this year by approximately \$9,000. The city let a contract authorizing the holder to gather all waste paper deposited at the city dumps. The firm is permitted to gather the paper, but the city makes no provision for separation of the paper from other debris deposited at the dump. To solve the problem, the company permits scavengers to prowls the dump for materials other than paper in return for the paper, for which they are paid 30 to 40 cents per hundred pounds for all they collect. (Memphis Commercial Appeal, June 21, 1962)

An unusual loan arrangement has been made with local banks in Norfolk, Virginia, that serve as depositories for city funds. The banks will loan sums to the city for short terms at a rate of 2 1/2 per cent. Interest paid on time deposits by the bank is 3 per cent. The banks can afford to enter into this arrangement because of the tax-free status of the interest on loans to the city. (West Virginia Municipality, Spring 1962)

Parking meter receipts are handled by the weight method in Columbia, South Carolina. When coins are delivered by the collectors to the city treasurer, they are weighed, recorded, and attested to by all participating personnel. This method requires less time for processing in addition to improving coin control. (Municipal Finance News Letter, July 1, 1962)

Water & Sewage



WATER AND SEWAGE

A detergent filter is being tested to eliminate the foaming tap water found in some localities. Trial runs of the 12,000-gallon-per-day filter show promise. It is a chemical filter medium confined by saran cloth. (Engineering News-Record, February 15, 1962)

Aluminum grating floors are advantageous in pumping stations, sewage plants and other similar facilities. The open aluminum mesh flooring, which needs no painting, is located at ground level at the wastes pumping station at East Hills, Long Island, New York. It allows light and air to pass freely to the basement. The operations of automatic cone valves on the pumping equipment below the grating can be visually inspected through the mesh floors. (Public Works, January 1962)

Stream pollution might become a thing of the past if every city and industry now dumping wastes into streams were required to take their water from an intake located below their wastes outfall. If this could be done, every polluter will automatically become the "fellow downstream" who suffers the indignities of the upstream fellow's wastes. There would be a mad scramble to clean up the discharges which have been wished on others with utter disregard for their comfort, convenience and cash. (Wastes Engineering, February 1962)

Leaking sewer lines were relined with plastic pipe in Greenwich, Connecticut, to stop salt water infiltration. A 20-foot section was excavated and the top half of the concrete pipe in this section was broken out. A wire cable was sent through the sewer line to a winch located over a downstream manhole. Ten-foot plastic pipe sections, joined in a ditch with sleeve couplings, 11 1/2 inches long, were then pulled through the sewer line. (The American City, April 1962)

A radial cone bottom tank of 1,000,000 gallons capacity, with 138 feet to the overflow and a head range of twenty-five feet, stands in Alexandria, Louisiana. It is dressed in four colors: white dome; tan bottom, risers and columns; brown radial beams; and a light green catwalk railing. It is conspicuously located in a residential area and near a highway bypass route. Because of its location and striking appearance, many nice comments have been received from visitors. At night the upper portion of this tank is floodlighted at twelve-foot intervals around the catwalk railing. (Public Works, January 1960)

A translucent roof covering the filter system of the sewage plant at Nora Springs, Iowa, helps to keep operation at a high level of efficiency. The fiberglass cover lets the sun beam through in the wintertime when pollution is most critical. At one point, when the outside temperature registered 15°, the filter temperature was 70°.

Hinged doors on the slanted roof panels allow the filter to be opened to the atmosphere when outside temperatures are favorable. (The American City, March 1962)

Installing aeration equipment in an oxidation pond serving a rapidly expanding subdivision in an unincorporated area of Du Page County, Illinois, has eliminated the necessity of adding a second pond. This aerated lagoon also is adding flexibility in stage development of sewage treatment facilities for the area until the county's master plan for construction of a major treatment works can be realized. (Public Works, August 1962)

Sodium hypochlorite, a waste product at Union Carbide Nuclear Company, Oak Ridge, may be the answer to Knoxville's sewage treatment problem. At lower cost the chemical will serve as a substitute for chlorine to kill bacteria in the sewage. (Knoxville News-Sentinel, August 16, 1962)

An air-supported vinyl roof over an asphalt-panel and vinyl-lined reservoir at Santa Maria, California, provides storage for 515,000 gallons of water at a cost of under three cents per gallon. The air-supported roof is of colored aluminum to reflect heat. (Civil Engineering, September 1962)

Customers may pay their water bills in Kingsport, Tennessee, as much as a year in advance, and receive interest on the prepayments at the rate of 3 per cent per annum. The city will save four cents on postage alone every time it does not have to mail out a monthly bill, which is two per cent of the \$2 minimum monthly bill for inside-city customers. Other savings in billing and bookkeeping costs are also anticipated. (Kingsport Times, October 3, 1962)

Sound waves replaced acid for cleaning water meters in the Southern California Water Company's meter repair shop. The result is a better job more quickly completed, without the hazards that accompany the acid-bath method. (The American City, February 1962)

Today's sewer designs need no longer be in straight lines, nor do manholes need to be installed at every change in grade or alignment, according to Ellsworth L. Filby of Black & Veatch, Kansas City consulting engineers. Mr. Filby also suggests that manholes should not have ladder rungs cast in the walls. They become corroded and dangerous. New plastic compounds will form a joint more nearly free from infiltration of outside ground water than the older jointing compounds could provide. Rubber rings also give a good account of themselves with concrete pipe of moderate size. (The American City, February 1962)

An automatic recorder monitors telephone complaints as well as radio calls to the mobile emergency crews of the water, sewer, and street maintenance branch of the Greater Winnipeg Water and Sanitary District, Winnipeg, Manitoba. This system is a sure way to keep the record straight on all customer complaints and emergency operations handled over the telephone. (Willing Water, March 1962)

To help control the psychoda fly around the sewage treatment plant in Hays, Kansas, wrens were induced to take up residence on the grounds. Wrens were particularly needed because 90 per cent of their diet consists of insects, while most other birds feed on seed. To provide attractive housing, wren houses were made from dried, brightly painted gourds which were grown on the plant grounds. The birds took over and the fly problem lessened. Many people visit the plant primarily to see the colorful gourd birdhouses. (The American City, December 1961)

Seed sludge obtained from a sewage treatment plant can be used to start a new digestion tank, thus saving the cost of neutralizing chemicals and assuring early production of sludge gas. (Wastes Engineering, January 1962)

Worms at the sewage treatment plants in Hays, Kansas, are serving a useful purpose. The worms, about three inches long, are sold for fish bait. They make excellent bait since they are the type of worms which live in water. The demand has almost exceeded the supply. Proceeds from the sales finance the beautification of plant grounds. (The American City, December 1961)

Remote meter reading via telephone networks is being tested in Michigan. Gas and electric meters will be tied to a central punched-tape information center using the homeowner's telephone line as the connecting link. (Engineering News-Record, July 12, 1962)

Ozone is used for water disinfection in more than 200 municipal plants throughout Europe, many of them having used it continuously for 50 years or more. Ozone has been found to be quite effective in removing odors and tastes which the average consumer finds objectionable. (The Municipal South, August 1962)

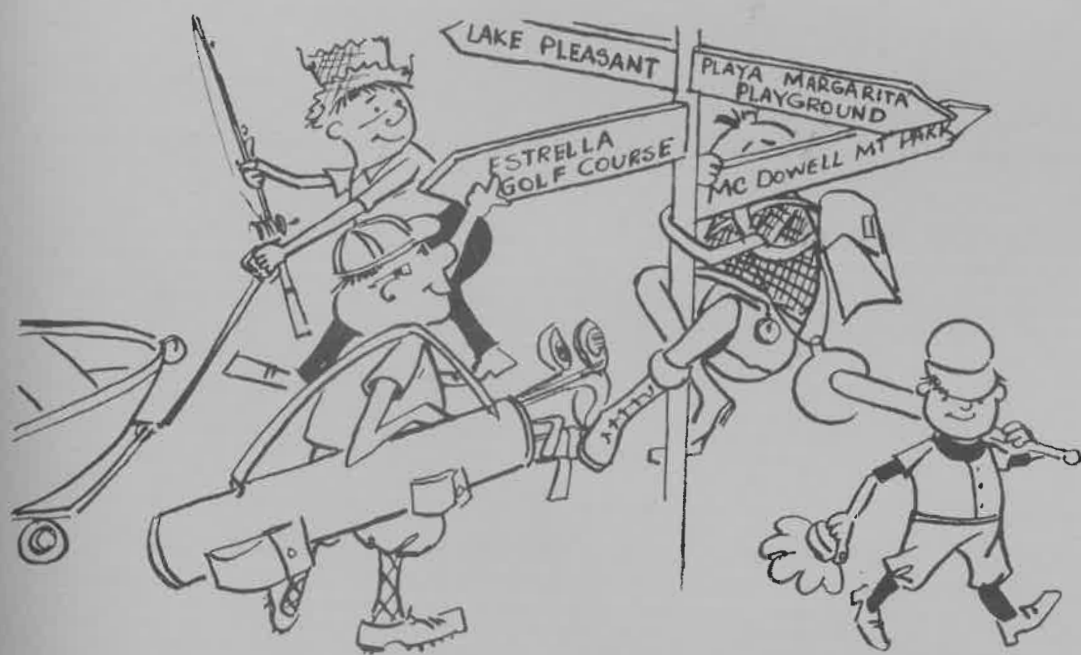
Water meter readers in Deerfield, Illinois, no longer need to enter residences to get their readings. In all residential construction, the village requires a glass block placed in the wall. The water department then installs the meter at a 45° angle behind the block so that the meter reader can make his observations from outside the house. (The American City, October 1961)

Industrial waste producers in some cities are required to provide and maintain, at their own expense, a control manhole to facilitate sampling and observation. (Municipal Finance, August 1961)

A filtering system that removes detergents from wastes has been approved by the Suffolk County (Long Island, New York) Health Department to treat laundry wastes for subsurface disposal. The treatment consists of absorption of the detergent on activated carbon, which is then removed by a diatomite filter. The carbon used amounted to 5.5 lbs. per 1,000 gallons. The total chemical cost was \$220 for the test run, or 3.7 cents per washer load. (Public Works, April 1962)

Suggested policies and procedures for the administration of the water and sewer department of Gainesville, Georgia, were provided by the city's consulting engineer upon completion of a construction project. Included is a chart showing the flow of funds, bookkeeping classification of accounts, work order forms, extension policies, rates, rules and regulations.

Parks & Recreation



PARKS AND RECREATION

"G-litter bags" have created enthusiasm among the children on the playgrounds in New Hampshire. The letter "G" is glued and glittered on a shopping bag and children enjoy scurrying around the play area collecting litter to make their playground glitter. (Recreation, April 1962)

A decommissioned fire truck provides hours of pleasure for children in Bayonne, New Jersey. The 1928-model ladder truck, worth very little on a trade-in, was given a new coat of "fire-engine red" paint and donated to the recreation department of the city. The park maintenance superintendent welded all movable parts of the stripped truck to insure the safety of the youthful fire fighters. It was partially sunk into the ground to eliminate the high step from the running board of the old model truck. (The American City, November 1961)

Greenways (utility easements transformed into park-like walkways) are proposed for San Jose, California. The proposal has been presented to many individuals and civic groups as a project which can be undertaken in small segments. The project can be carried out with a minimum of cost since the land is free. Trees are available from the State Division of Forestry for public projects at about two cents each. Greenways offer a means of turning single purpose land which is often a community liability into a multipurpose community asset.

A "bucking horse" developed from an oil drum provided many hours of fun for more than 400 children on a playground in Hazel Park, Michigan. The oil drum was suspended about one foot off the ground, with metal cables attached to four steel posts cemented into the ground. The drum and cables were heavily padded, and a real western-type saddle was placed on the drum. With children shaking the cables up and down, the horse will buck and weave, giving the rider a truly wild but safe ride. (Recreation, January 1962)

An educational campaign to curb vandalism in city parks is being sponsored by the parks association of New York. In launching the campaign during "city parks week," the mayor issued a proclamation endorsing the movement to protect the parks against "the willful as well as the unconscious acts of citizens and others, such as vandalism, littering, abuse, and the disregard of accepted practices." Films will be shown to school children and speakers booked for classrooms. Park vandalism costs to the city of New York last year amounted to \$295,930. (Parks Maintenance, January 1962)

"The Spirit of Recreation in St. Louis" is the title of an 18-minute color movie which was produced to publicize the many organized recreational activities available to citizens. The film is available

for showing to schools, civic, and business organizations. (Park Maintenance, November 1961)

Bees and other bothersome insects no longer make trouble in Los Angeles' 5,300-acre Griffith Park. A solution, popularly known as DDVP, solved this problem. The bee colonies were located and sprayed with the solution, a process which destroyed approximately 50 per cent of the park's bee population. Trash cans in the park were sprayed weekly with the solution, reducing the bee population from 40 bees to 1 per can. The cans are now emptied and washed when half full. The results indicate that the new program has reduced the number of bees by 99 per cent and the flies by 80 per cent. The total cost of materials for last year's spraying was \$360. (The American City, February 1962)

An automatic aluminum swimming pool cover will help to ease the minds of backyard pool owners. It opens and closes accordion-style and locks in place when the pool is unattended, operating from battery or household current when you turn a removable switch cord. In addition to its safety value, the manufacturer claims it will cut chemical and cleaning costs by two-thirds. (Parade, March 25, 1962)

Raw-water reservoirs are being used by some cities for recreation purposes, ranging from fishing to water skiing, from camping to skin diving. Raleigh, North Carolina, which has a supplemental reservoir above its terminal water-storage area that supplies the treatment plant, has opened this area to boating, swimming, picnicking and similar recreation which not only generates an immense amount of pleasure for the people of Raleigh but also a certain amount of income. (The American City, June 1962)

The fire service in many communities has instituted free instruction in life-saving methods and in the safe maintenance of swimming pools. Construction and maintenance of swimming pools is now a \$1,000,000,000 a year business. According to the National Swimming Pool Institute, some 52,300 pools were installed in 1960--most of them residential. (International Assn. of Fire Chiefs)

A community theater has been set up by the recreation department in El Segundo, California, a previously movie-less town. Full-length color and cinemascope films are shown to capacity audiences of 300 for the admission price of 25¢ a person. If there are any profits, they are put into the club account and used to purchase equipment for the recreation park to be used by teenagers. (Western City, December 1961)

Refuse



REFUSE

Garbage tickets similar to those for overtime parking are given householders in Newburgh, New York. The tickets warn of violations of rubbish and garbage collection ordinances, but court action is started after issuance of two warning tickets. (League of North Dakota Municipalities, September 1961)

Grass clippings can be deposited in a refuse-collection truck at six selected shopping centers on Saturdays in Denver, Colorado. Residents find the task much simpler than hauling to an outlying land-fill. The truck drivers help unload the grass from the cars and dump it into the hoppers of the compaction units. The newspapers cooperate by listing every Friday the hours the trucks are on duty and the location of the shopping centers. In addition to the service being utilized, the city actually saves money on this program. (The American City, July 1962)

Garbage is gift-wrapped in Coplay, Pennsylvania. The idea stemmed from the problem of garbage wrapping enforcement, which created little enthusiasm in the rapidly growing city. One man had the idea of providing incentive instead of enforcement, which would be less trouble, and, in the long run, less costly. The idea was simple--instead of penalties, award prizes for residents who keep their garbage neatly wrapped and garbage cans clean all year. Now, it is not unusual for the collection crew to pick up garbage in gift wrappings and ribbons. (The Street Cleaner, March 1962)

Incinerator by-products used as land fill is expected to save Philadelphia taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars. "Fill" costs will drop from \$2 a yard to 30¢ a yard. (Philadelphia Municipal News Letter, July 1962)

An educational campaign to "sell" new refuse containers to replace unsightly and unsanitary cans has been successful in Borger, Texas. An experiment, a token number of new containers were purchased to replace old cans and before and after pictures were taken to show the improvement. Containers were bought for all residents after the campaign and were delivered by the city at cost. In addition to getting their new cans at a reduced rate, residents were given a credit on their water account for the old containers which were removed. (Public Management, March 1962)

"NO STOP LITTER CATCHER" is the sign in large letters above screen wire about 20 feet high and 15 feet wide on the side of a main highway at the city limits of Jefferson City, Tennessee. The wire is shaped into a trough at the bottom, so passing motorists can throw their trash against any part of the catcher without stopping.

A new trash container is being manufactured which holds twice as much as the average metal can and makes a lighter one-way load for the waste collector. The container is a strong single-ply paper bag suspended from a metal holder with an airtight lid. The holders and bags are being put out by the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company for municipalities, which will install the holders and distribute the bags. (Consumer Bulletin, September 1962)

Traffic & Parking



TRAFFIC AND PARKING

An electronic patrolman which checks speeders is being used by a police department in the South. The speed-timing device can be used by a moving patrol car or in a stationary position and is capable of picking up the speed of a fast-moving vehicle out of a group of cars moving in either direction. The speedometer dial on the electronic device locks at the speed which the suspect car is traveling, thus eliminating any argument as to how fast the vehicle was actually traveling. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, January 1962)

A new portable unattended roadside radar-camera that automatically monitors traffic speed and flow is now on the market. The unit also provides individual photographs of each vehicle, showing direction, identification, coloring, approximate number of occupants, lateral road position, specific maneuver in relationship with other vehicles, time, date, location, degree of illumination, and weather conditions. (Rohr Advertising, Inc., 3465 N. College Avenue, Indianapolis 5, Indiana)

Alternate-side parking on alternate nights in order that snow removal might be expedited has been established by ordinance in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The regulation has resulted in fewer accidents and claims since the plows do not have to maneuver around parked cars. Also, street conditions are improved since, after two nights, snow plows expose both curb lines on every street. (The American City, January 1962)

A distress signal for a motorist traveling on an Interstate System highway is a white cloth or handkerchief hanging from the window next to the driver's seat. (Highway Highlights, January 1962)

The yellow caution light phase should be longer, according to extensive observations of traffic engineers with the General Motors Corporation. Several hundred observations were made at five different intersections and the conclusion was that the amber lights were too short to clear an intersection of traffic before opposing traffic was released. (Missouri Municipal Review, February 1962)

Plush, door-to-door service for patrons willing to pay the premium price will be offered by the Memphis Bus System. The red carpet service will provide express rides to persons living in the same general area who are bound for common downtown destinations. The transit authority's plan is to pick up passengers in front of their homes in the morning and return them in the afternoon, for a charge of \$20 a month. (Knoxville News-Sentinel, May 1, 1962)

Collecting parking meter coins in the City of Memphis may be handled in the future by a private firm. Estimates were submitted to the city by private firms and it was found that one company quoted a \$1,000 per month minimum charge. The city is now paying more than \$1,200 in salaries to four city employees to make collections, in addition to other costs such as operating a truck and paying office personnel to sort and count coins before depositing them. (Memphis Commercial Appeal, February 17, 1962)

When you get a traffic ticket in Providence, Rhode Island, you have to go to court. During the first six months after this tough new policy of on-the-spot summonses to traffic violators went into effect, an amazing reduction of more than 25 per cent of the number of motor vehicle accidents involving deaths or personal injuries occurred. The only way a traffic ticket can be fixed is to talk the officer out of issuing it in the first place. (Highway Highlights, May 1962)

"Flip" stop signs were recently installed in Lawrence, Kansas, to aid in controlling school zone traffic. The new flip signs have replaced the old style movable signs which are commonly seen in the middle of streets near school areas. Standards for the signs were made of available tubular material with the sign mounted on a cross member of a rectangle atop the upright, making the working mechanism of the sign about seven feet from the ground and difficult for the children to reach. The janitorial staff of the school nearby has the responsibility of keeping the sign in the desired position. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, July 1962)

Sound waves detect traffic movement in East Orange, New Jersey, at a convenient four-way intersection in a semi-residential area. An elementary school and a church located near the intersection cause heavy pedestrian traffic at several intervals during the day, but during "off-hours" traffic is very light. Since it was obvious that both automatic vehicle detectors and also pedestrian push buttons would be necessary to handle the fluctuating traffic, the ultra-sonic vehicle detector seemed to be the solution to traffic control. (Street Engineering, June 1962)

Traffic guide lines will be painted on city streets in Nashville with a new machine called a "Nite-Liner." It is the first machine designed to operate at night when traffic is light and will apply a super-heated special "nite-line" marking material that dries in less than three minutes. This new machine can be operated in just above freezing weather, increasing the period in which striping was normally done by 50 per cent. (The Nashville Banner, September 25, 1962)

A colorful aluminum canopy will be erected across the rear of all the stores in the Rock Hill, South Carolina, business district. The 10-foot wide, mile long, continuous shelter will be within 25 feet of most parking spaces. (Street Engineering, January 1962)

Using pedestrian signals without words on traffic control devices, as the Europeans do, is an experiment being tried in Montgomery, Alabama. These signals were installed on a street 75 feet wide, deliberately chosen for its width in order to test thoroughly the legibility of the symbols. The public readily grasped the meaning of the symbols and reacted accordingly. The symbols are designed to convey messages to people who are color blind or cannot read. (Public Works, February 1962)

A new type parking meter has been invented which erases the unexpired time as the parker leaves, thus preventing the next motorist who pulls in from gaining any free time. The meter works like any other until a parker starts to pull out. As he departs, a rear wheel passes over a pneumatic tube fixed to the pavement near the curb. This sends an air signal to the meter and trips the time pointer back to zero. (News-Sentinel, January 14, 1962)

A "no-fix" parking ticket system in use in Hartford, Connecticut, for the past 10 months has increased collections \$80,000. The backbone of the program is built-in follow-up control, made possible by modern machine accounting methods. The new, tighter control gives an accounting of every single parking tag issued and fine paid. The system's effectiveness is reflected in the 80 per cent collection that is achieved before the tickets become delinquent at the end of 14 days. In fact 75 per cent of the tickets are paid within the first week to avoid stiff penalties. The fine doubles if not paid in seven days and quadruples after 14 days. (Mayor and Manager, October 1961)

A chain letter urging safe driving was sent to 6,000 people in Great Britain with a request that each recipient send five similar letters to friends. Their goal is to eventually reach every licensed driver in Great Britain. (Traffic Safety, October 1961)

Freeway characteristics can be developed to some extent in many existing arterials by the institution of three regulations--left turn restrictions, driveway closures, and street barricading--for the rush hours only. The resulting "rush hour freeway" would best provide traffic service to highway users when their needs were greatest, without unduly sacrificing the arterial's other function of providing service for local traffic and abutting owners. (Highway Research Board Bulletin 271)

Fog-lights are being installed on curbs of a major street in Oakland, California. These inexpensive low-wattage illuminants present a low depressed silhouette and identify street alignment better than fog-subdued overhead lights. (Western City, November 1961)

"Fixing" a ticket can be done legally in Manilla, P.I., by having the offender donate a pint of blood. A nurse is available at the city hall to make all arrangements for those who make such a choice. (Traffic Safety, January 1962)

Customers will park their own cars at Nashville's new civic auditorium. When they approach the garage, a ticket will be punched by a machine. The driver will roll down his window and take the ticket, then drive on to park his car wherever he chooses. He will lock his car and keep the keys. When he is ready to leave, he will drive his car to an exit and hand an attendant his ticket. The employee will put the ticket in a decoding machine that computes the parking fee. (The Nashville Banner, November 30, 1961)

Parking lots are being obtained under unique lease-purchase agreements in Glendale, California. An insurance company will lease the lots to the city at 5 per cent of the acquisition cost per year. (League of North Dakota Municipalities, November 1961)

A distress signal for a motorist having car trouble should not be a problem if he will follow the advice of a state trooper. He suggests the following technique: spray the inside of the trunk lid with a fluorescent blaze-orange paint, and when a breakdown occurs, just raise the lid and you have a built-in reflector, one yard square, that can be seen for a great distance. It takes no room and will not deteriorate. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, March 1962)

Removal of unlicensed drivers from the streets has helped to combat traffic deaths in Dallas, Texas. A study of accidents recorded in 1959 revealed that drivers without a valid license at the time of their apprehension were at fault in 20 per cent of the accidents. The same drivers had been found at fault in 25 per cent of the recorded fatal accidents. Driver's license check lanes were established throughout the city and officers stopped motorists to inspect their licenses. Newspapers not only informed the public of the approaching enforcement drive but also carried editorials stressing the need for such action. By December 31, 1960, 15,988 arrests had been made for driver's license violations. Accidents, which had been 9.5 per cent above the previous year's level when the lanes were instituted, rose only 1 per cent for the year. The check lanes have been made a permanent part of the police department's operating procedure. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, January 1962)

An accident-prevention board in Sacramento, California, provides three benefits to citizens and municipal employees: reduction of on-the-job injuries, decreased insurance charges for city vehicles, and fewer repairs to the city's vehicles. After an accident, the municipal driver must appear before the board, whether he was at fault

or not. If he is the negligent party, he either is sent a letter of reprimand from the city manager, removed from driving status, or suspended for a maximum period of ten days without pay. Since the creation of the board, the vehicle accident rate has shown marked improvement.
(The American City, December 1961)

Public Relations



PUBLIC RELATIONS

"As the Taxpayer Sees Us" is the title of a monthly reprint of selected letters from citizens to the city administration in Little Rock, Arkansas. This is done as a reminder that city employees' actions are always on display and with the hope that the public's image of the city administration might be improved. (The Municipal South, February 1962)

Personal letters of invitation to Wayzata, Minnesota, city council meetings are sent to 15 residents selected at random by area of the city. The letter says in part: "The Wayzata City Council extends a personal invitation to you and your family to attend the regular meeting. Is something special happening that night? Not that we know of except that public business, your business, will be transacted on that date." (Public Management, January 1962)

A mechanical telephone answering device has been installed in the city hall in Grand Junction, Colorado. After-hours calls are answered with the recorded message that the city hall is closed, that the office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and the phone number to call for water or sewer emergencies. (Public Management, January 1962)

Promotional material for clean-up campaigns can be obtained free for your city by writing to the Public Relations Department, Galvanized Ware Manufacturers Council, 221 North LaSalle Street, Chicago 1, Illinois. Colorful window banners, printed in black and white, 14 1/4 by 34 1/2 inches in size, are among the promotional materials. The Council supplies them to municipalities conducting clean-up and sanitation campaigns to be placed in retail stores which sell galvanized ware and other cleaning aids. (The American City, March 1962)

An anonymous suggestion system has proven to be advantageous in Kingsport, Tennessee. Numbered cards on which to write suggestions are provided with a tear-off tab which is retained by the suggestion maker. No signature is required on the card. When a winner is selected, the number of posted on the bulletin board, and the winner presents the numbered tab for the prize.

Billboards have been erected in Asheville, North Carolina, welcoming foreign visitors. The billboards are printed in a number of foreign languages. An interpreter service has also been formed. (Area Redevelopment Bulletin, May-June 1962)

Picture postcard water bills build goodwill for the Dallas, Texas, water works. The slogan "pleasure is our by-product" appears on each card but the picture is different for each billing period. The idea that the water bill represents a charge for service rather than a commodity alone is repeatedly stressed. (Willing Water, July 1962)

"Meet the people" neighborhood meetings are being held by the Huntington, West Virginia, city council. The public meetings, designed to consider public opinion on possible tax or fee increases for special improvements, are held in two of the various sections of the city each week. (West Virginia Municipality, Spring 1962)

Prospective industrial firms will be presented color slides showing different areas of the City of Athens, Tennessee. These slides are being prepared by the Athens Chamber of Commerce. (Tennessee Industrial Development News, August 1962)

"Metroplex Assembly," a new kind of town meeting in St. Louis, is intended to portray, analyze, and discuss the numerous problems facing a metropolitan area. More than 400 groups, called "viewing posts," are taking part in this experiment in civic responsibility which has become the largest community discussion program in the nation. The format of the program consists of a 30-minute television program presenting basic ideas and information regarding the problem being discussed. "Viewing post" members then use the next half-hour to discuss the issues and telephone questions they want answered to the television station. Then they turn their sets on again while their questions are answered by studio guests. (Urban Renewal Notes, May-June 1962)

Employee reading rooms have proved to be a valuable communication, educational, and training medium, according to the Nashville Electric Service Employees' Civil Service and Pension Board. Through the program, established in 1955, the Board now distributes 25,000 booklets a year at an annual cost of from \$750 to \$800. Items are selected for educational and inspirational value and for variety in reading to hold interest in the program. Each piece of material is reviewed by the Electric Department Manager before being placed on the reading racks. (Personnel News, September 1962)

Colored slides to let the people know what services city employees provide are used by the Department of Public Works in Lynbrook, New York. The slides have been shown to service clubs, fraternal organizations, women's clubs, and church groups. It seems to be a very good way of presenting the operations of any governmental department to the people who are paying the tax bill. (The American City, October 1962)

"City Policies" is the title of a booklet distributed to city departments and advisory boards in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The booklet covers policies regarding the city manager, civic auditorium, fire protection, legal department, parks and recreation, planning, and public works. It includes such information as auditorium rentals, dedication of land for parks and recreation, fire service outside the city, and city council agenda. (Public Management, October 1962)

Federal assistance programs in Johnson City, Tennessee, were expedited by eliminating a lot of red tape. A conference was called of representatives of the Urban Renewal Agency, Public Housing Agency, HHFA, City Planning Consultant, Planning Director, and other city officials to work out various points of disagreement. The city administration felt that this conference eliminated months, and possibly years, of correspondence with these agencies on urban renewal and the comprehensive plan.

Summer visitors to Portland, Maine, are given assistance by two civic hostesses who are college girls. The girls answer questions and give directions, make change for parking meters, issue courtesy tickets to out-of-city cars for overtime parking, and distribute informative booklets and leaflets on the city and its facilities. The girls are trained in such matters as reporting lost children, accidents, and other emergencies; furnishing bus routes and information on schedules; and answering questions about points of historic or scenic interest. The Portland Retail Trade Board and the city government share the cost of the program. (Public Management, August 1962)

To shorten city council meetings, one municipal official suggested that the minutes of the previous meetings be copied and distributed to the mayor and councilmen prior to the next meeting so they can be read at home. Then at the council meeting, the mayor simply asks for any additions or corrections to the minutes. (Iowa Municipalities, August 1962)

Miscellaneous



MISCELLANEOUS

A new use has been discovered for smoke, if it does not escape into the atmosphere, according to the United States Steel Corporation. By use of a special recovery process, the company is transforming smoke into about 145 pounds of chemicals per ton of coal burned in the production of coke. The by-product chemicals are being used in the manufacture of paints, explosives, insecticides, nylon, cosmetics and perfume. In addition, there are medical and national defense uses for these chemicals. (The American City, April 1962)

A device for testing the thickness of paint applied to wood construction has been developed for the FHA. The testing device is proposed for use by FHA field inspectors to insure compliance with FHA's Minimum Property Standards--that the paint film thickness on an exterior wood surface must be at least 4-mils when dry. The inexpensive testing method should interest builders also since it will enable them to check on the adequacy of the paint film. (Construction Times, Memphis, November 1961)

Discarded library books, with the covers removed, can be sold for waste paper. Since library books are discarded because they are worn, soiled, or obsolete, they are unsuitable for donations to other organizations. (Mississippi Municipalities, December 1961)

A "Good Manners Table" can be found at Ransom School in Nashville where special recognition is given to those students who have tried hard to eat their peas with their forks, chew their food with their mouths closed, and talk with modulated voices. As an incentive, students who are selected to eat at this table are eligible to enter the election for the boy and girl who represents his or her class at the "Good Manners Banquet" which is held at one of the better hotels or restaurants. (Family Wheel, January 1962)

A "Learn-Earn" Education Program for high school students under a Ford Foundation grant is being sponsored by New York City. Under the program, more than 250 high school students will divide their time between the classroom and employment in 10 city departments, for which they will receive school credit. Assignments are to jobs in which shortages exist and in which ultimate employment is fairly certain. (Public Management, September 1961)

Summer watering is being encouraged by Maryville, Tennessee. For those customers applying for the special rate, the sewer surcharges (70 per cent of the water bill) for June, July, August, and September will equal the average for the preceding eight months. This action was sponsored by the County Chamber of Commerce and the County Beautiful Committee. (Maryville-Alcoa Times, May 25, 1962)

An Ordinance Violations Bureau, the first of its kind in the United States, has been established in Minneapolis. The bureau, similar to a traffic violations bureau, was set up for the disposition of minor violations of health, fire, zoning, and building regulations. The degree of penalty for various violations is prescribed by the municipal court on a one to ten point scale of \$5 fine per point. The violations cover nearly 200 items in 53 categories of building, fire, food violation, housing, and weights and measures codes. The system places the responsibility of abiding by the city code directly on the citizen. (Minnesota Municipalities, June 1962)

An area improvement program has been started in St. Petersburg, Florida. The city is divided into 50 separate "improvement areas" to provide a logical step-by-step approach to completion of improvements. A five- to six-year program is planned, with 10 districts being improved each year. (City Managers' News Letter, June 15, 1962)

A municipal lobbying ordinance which would require the registration of any person who seeks to influence municipal legislation and the reporting of all funds spent in such an effort has been proposed by the mayor of Los Angeles. The ordinance would not cover private citizens appearing at council hearings, as well as public officials, "acting in their official capacity," and church representatives. The mayor stated that such a regulation is designed to prevent the voice of the people from "being drowned out by the voice of special interest groups seeking favored treatment while masquerading as proponents of the public weal." (American Municipal News, July 14, 1962)

Vandal-proof plastic globes are replacing fragile glass globes on outdoor lighting standards in residential sections of Long Island, New York. The butyrate plastic globes cost even less than the standard glass model. (The American City, March 1962)

A safe holiday driving bonus was offered in Florida for the Thanksgiving Holidays. Drivers using seat belts in their cars were permitted to ride free on Florida toll roads. The purpose of the promotion was two-fold: to save lives, and to call attention to the life-saving role of seat belts. (Traffic Safety, December 1961)

Flying insects have been cleared from a large recreation area in Dearborn, Michigan, by using an electronic device called an Insect-O-Cutor. Erected on steel poles, the units contain black-light bulbs which attract the insects to the grid of wires for instant electrocution. (Park Maintenance, August 1961)

Obtaining land for future urban use is no problem in Oklahoma City. Groups of businessmen working through the Chamber of Commerce buy up land needed for future public improvements and hold it

Plexiglas is being used to replace window glass in school buildings damaged by vandals in New York City. (Thos. Trammell, Cadillac Plastic Co., Louisville)

In-service training on forms of local government and functions is being provided for the employees of Oak Lawn, Illinois. The course consists of three two-hour sessions held during working hours with a test given at the end of the third session. (Public Management, April 1962)