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Municipal Government—
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Compiled by MARY BUSH

MUNICIPAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE

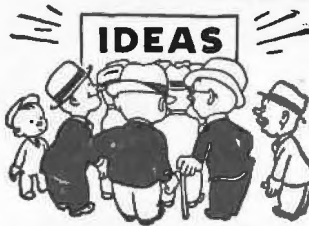
DIVISION OF UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

In cooperation with the TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

K. M. H. H.

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FOREWORD

This publication, edited by Mary Bush, Secretary, MTAS, is a roundup of items which have appeared during the past year in the Technical Section of Tennessee Town & City. These items have been extracted from periodicals and other publications in the field of municipal government.

It is our hope that this "catalog of municipal ideas" will be useful to Tennessee municipal officials and to other interested persons.

Victor C. Hobday
Executive Director

December 1960

CONTENTS

Public Works.....	1
Police and Fire.....	4
Personnel.....	7
Health, Safety and Welfare.....	8
Finance and Taxation.....	11
Water and Sewage.....	13
Parks and Recreation.....	15
Refuse.....	17
Traffic and Parking.....	18
Public Relations.....	21
Miscellaneous.....	24

Public Works



PUBLIC WORKS

Instant concrete pipe can be built in a freshly-cut ditch at the rate of eight to twelve feet per minute, according to the construction machinery manufacturer. Using two 300-foot inflated forms with only three pounds of air pressure per square inch, as much as 600 feet of concrete pipe can be poured without interruption. Ready-mix concrete trucks are used in a continuous stream to service the pouring equipment. (Kentucky Engineer, March 1960)

To clean around parked cars, Ocean City, Maryland, used a re-designed, blower-type Tarrant Litter-Getter with an extension hose. This is placed on a swivel over the cab of the truck so that the hose will reach over the tops of cars. An operator guides the nozzle to pick up the debris. (The American City, October 1960)

Weeds are controlled along the streets and roadways in Cincinnati by applying a chemical to the weeds while the tops are being mowed off by their standard roadside cutting equipment. A 50-gallon tank attached to a tractor-mower supplies a weed control mixture which is applied to exposed weed leaves as the mower makes its usual cut along the street. A distributing apparatus "paints" the exposed weed leaves with the chemical. (Cincinnati Progress, Summer Edition)

Wire brushes have replaced fiber brushes on 13 motor street sweepers in Phoenix, Arizona. After a six-month trial period it was found that wire brushes can do the same amount of work in half the time required by fiber brushes. The wire brushes cost considerably more but are more efficient. The result has been a 23 per cent reduction in broom cost per curb mile swept. (Public Management, May 1960)

Street cave-ins are repaired before they appear in Philadelphia, by using a new gravity device which will "see" below the surface. The device that finds them consists of a small weight attached to a delicate spring hooked to a meter viewed through a microscope. It works on the principle that the earth exerts a pull on objects. Where there is a cavity, there is less pull and the meter dial will point out a place needing repair. (Florida Municipal Record, July 1960)

When selecting trees for street planting, special consideration must be given to their effect on the municipal street lighting system. Preferably, light standards should be in place before trees are chosen or planted because the conditions governing the location of street lights are more restrictive than those for the planting of trees. (Municipal Street Trees, League of Wisconsin Municipalities, February 1960)

Fiberglass street light globes that will not break or shatter, even when subjected to the most vicious vandalism, are now being marketed. Developed in cooperation with a leading Southern California utility, the new fiberglass globes can save substantial sums in the time-consuming, costly replacement of broken street light globes. (Western City, May 1960)

Street sweeping by contract has been adopted by several small California cities as one way to obtain clean streets, even if they can't afford the necessary equipment fleet. (Street Engineering, June 1960)

An underground color detecting system has been developed to eliminate costly breakage and damage of buried cables, water and sewer lines, etc., by heavy, fast-digging machinery. It is called Quick-Find and comes packaged as a dry powder in five colors to contrast with various shades of soil. It is said to be permanent and indestructible. (The American City, June 1960)

Asbestos-asphalt surface mixes have been proven, by laboratory tests, to give better field performance as compared with conventional mixtures. The addition of two to three per cent of asbestos fibre adds to toughness, weather resistance, and resistance to cracking. (Engineering News-Record, April 21, 1960)

A new method for tapping into sewer lines has been developed which utilizes a hand- or power-operated core drill to cut a perfectly round hole in any size clay pipe and remove the core in one piece. The hole is cut to a dimension to receive an aluminum alloy adapter which is fastened permanently and tightly to the pipe by an epoxy resin to provide a root-proof and non-leaking joint. (Public Works, November 1959)

A steel cage to protect workmen in the trench has been devised by a pipeline contractor. The cage guards workmen against being buried alive by cave-ins or slides. It also eliminates costly bracing and sheeting, and can be used on job after job. (Construction Methods, September 1959)

A grading ordinance to regulate the design, construction, and maintenance of grading, excavation, and fills is being considered for adoption in a number of municipalities. This comparatively new device is designed to restrain the hit-and-run developer from his attack upon the natural beauty of the land. (Horizons, September 1959)

Auxiliary storage for equipment and materials has been developed under new elevated expressway structures in Cincinnati. (American Public Works Association 1959 Yearbook)

Pine-scented detergent is used occasionally to wash the downtown streets of Roanoke, Virginia. The detergent is placed in the water tanks of the street brooms at a 40-to-1 ratio. The brooms are followed by water flushers which remove the detergent and grime. City officials say that it is not only good public relations, but also makes the streets extremely clean. (Public Management, December 1959)

Excavated dirt which has been stock-piled for several months can be moved with a bulldozer in the coldest weather. In Eau Claire, Wisconsin, a contract was awarded for the excavation of a sanitary landfill trench and the contractor was permitted to make the excavation at any time at his convenience. By doing this in cold weather, the contractor was able to work his large excavating equipment at times that it might otherwise be idle. (Sanitary Landfill, American Society of Civil Engineers)

Frozen earth, as hard as concrete, is helping a contractor sink a 318-foot shaft in New York City. A refrigeration system circulates chilled brine through a ring of 21 pipes sunk into the ground and freezes the earth in the enclosed area into a solid cylinder. The frozen ground keeps the shaft dry and holds dirt in place. (Construction Methods and Equipment, January 1960)

A portable electronic moisture meter is now available which will accurately indicate the moisture content to an error of less than two-tenths of one per cent of any bulk materials including sand, gravel, limestone, etc. Time consumed in the old-fashioned cooking and drying method of making moisture tests need no longer be wasted. The portable meter is equipped with a 400-hour mercury battery. (C & W Sales Company, Inc. Menlo Park, California)

Epoxy adhesives have been used on both concrete and asphalt surfaces, to bond new concrete to old, to bond precast concrete sections, to anchor traffic bars to road surfaces, to level chuck holes, to fill cracks, spalls and depressions, to bond traffic buttons to the roadway surface, and to bond steel dowels into concrete pavement. Epoxy adhesives have proved versatile and easy to use; they form bonds that are actually stronger than the concrete itself. Costs for materials and labor frequently are less than half those of conventional repair methods. (Civil Engineering, November 1959)

"Complaints to Street Department Week" was proclaimed in Philadelphia early in April and all residents were "deputized" to act as field inspectors and report by postcard to the Streets Commissioner all street locations where repairs or cleaning were needed. The appeal is made each year because the department does not have enough patrol inspectors to cover the city adequately. Last year, residents sent in 1,254 post cards in answer to the appeal. (Division of Public Information, City Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.)

A master street-tree plan has been developed in Parma, Ohio, to help relieve the electric company's tree problems and benefit municipalities and homeowners as well. Every street in the city was surveyed and a number of items recorded. From these facts they selected a tree for each street--a variety which will not conflict with any of the site factors when it reaches maturity and which will enhance the property. (Public Works, March 1960)

Police & Fire



POLICE AND FIRE

Trade-in-value of one-year-old police cars in Hazel Park, Michigan, has averaged about \$500 in the past few years. It has been decided that these one-year-old police cars will be transferred to employees now receiving car allowances. After one more year of operation, the cars will be traded in for new police cars. This should not lower the trade-in value materially and the saving will amount to at least 50 per cent of the money spent for car allowances. (Public Management, June 1960)

Compact cars were chosen for use by Burbank police after a two-year trial period which showed that they had many advantages over a three-wheel motorcycle for parking enforcement. These advantages included: use as an all-weather unit; lower initial cost for the vehicle and the two-way radio; savings of motorcycle pay; and greater comfort and safety for the driver. The cars are equipped with right-hand drive. (Western City, May 1960)

A portable roadblock, invented and patented by a Swiss policeman, has been used extensively and effectively in Europe. This device consists of two belts to which spikes are attached to deflate tires of vehicles passing over it. The hollow spikes are about three inches long, and made of cast iron with slits in the three sides. The spikes are mounted on four- by four-inch metal clamps which are fastened to a heavy canvas webbed belt. Spikes pulled from the belt are easily replaced with new ones by tightening the holders with a pair of pliers. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, February 1960)

An FAA-approved helicopter for use in traffic control, fire prevention, crime detection, disaster, and civil defense work, can be purchased by utilizing the terms of a matching funds plan, which requires a city to pay only half the purchase price. (The American City, November 1959)

Protection for off-duty policemen from bodily injury, accidents, or sickness incurred in employment (with police powers) has been provided in Daytona Beach, Florida. All money from such employment is paid to the city, so that the policemen are covered by workmen's compensation and the pension plan during such off-duty hours. (Personnel News, December 1959)

A "snorkel" fire truck is being considered for the Memphis fire department. The "snorkel," a \$40,000 truck is a relatively new device which can be used for rescue or fire-fighting purposes. A basket at the end of a jointed 65-foot boom will hold eight persons. Twice within the year "snorkels" of the Chicago fire department have been used to remove injured from elevated train collision sites. Similar equipment is being demonstrated in St. Louis at the present time. (Commercial Appeal, December 29, 1959)

Indigent patients in Norfolk, Virginia, will be carried to and from hospitals by the fire department. This task has become a burden for the police department and the fire department usually has the time to do the job without inconvenience. (The Municipal South, April 1960)

Merited recognition of police officers who render service above and beyond the call of duty is being emphasized in the City of Nashville. A special committee will select a member of Nashville's police department for a \$50 reward to be presented each month to the officer whose work has been outstanding during the past 30-day period. Particular emphasis will be placed on criminal cases solved or arrests made for more serious law violations when the initial arrest stems from a traffic law violation. (The Nashville Banner, November 25, 1959)

Automatic sprinklers will work effectively to provide positive protection for books and documents in libraries and other record centers, and will keep damage at a minimum. This conclusion was drawn after a series of fire experiments which were conducted by the Factory Mutual Engineering Division to test the effectiveness of automatic sprinklers in libraries and other record centers. (National Fire Protection Association, Boston, Massachusetts)

Home fire alarms are required in all types of newly built dwelling units in Quincy, Massachusetts. Since the ordinance was passed in 1958, some 300 heat activated fire alarm systems have been installed. They cost \$60 to \$75 for a five-room dwelling. (Public Administration Bulletin, May 1960)

Light-weight portable radio receivers are carried by all "beat" patrolmen in Cincinnati, Ohio. The units, about the size of a pack of cigarettes, enable men to receive one-way transmissions, such as reports on criminal activities in their beats. The patrolmen must make hourly calls to the dispatcher. (Public Management, January 1960)

Fire alarm cable is now being installed under the streets in Phoenix, Arizona, in telephone company ducts. The telephone company installs the cable without charge to the city at the same time that it installs telephone lines. (Public Management, January 1960)

A battle plan is under consideration for Phoenix, Arizona, firefighters to show them the best way to close in on and fight a fire. When the fire alarm sounds, the dispatcher turns to an index card which details the best assignment of equipment for the particular area and refers to another card which charts the proper moves for backstopping in the area of the station vacated by the firefighters going to the scene. (Public Administration Bulletin, November 30, 1959)

Frozen fire hydrants can be thawed most satisfactorily by use of steam, according to Elmer G. Stough, State Fire Marshal of Ohio. Steam lines may be available from nearby industrial plants or a portable steam "jinny" can be used. Quicklime and hot water put into a hydrant will prove a satisfactory method of thawing, but the hydrant should then be thoroughly flushed to prevent corrosion. After the hydrants are thawed, the water must be pumped out immediately as they will freeze again. Putting alcohol, anti-freeze, or calcium chloride in hydrants is not recommended due to the corrosive action of these chemicals. (Ohio Cities and Villages, January 1959)

A psychiatric examination for police candidates is being considered in several states to aid in screening out those who would not be likely to withstand the tensions of a police career. (Personnel News, August 1959)

A state-approved training course will be required for policemen hired by counties or municipalities in New York state after July 1, 1960. An eight-member council will recommend standards for training courses needed for promotion as well as initial appointment. (Public Administration Bulletin, September 30, 1959)

An intercity task force, created by the San Francisco Police Department, is aimed at the floating criminal and syndicated crime. This arrangement allows one city to borrow trained police units, unknown locally, from another. (Texas Town & City, June 1959)

A junior police force composed of 70 youngsters has been formed in St. Albans, Vermont. On Saturday, they study court procedure, fingerprinting, radio communication, and the job of the police. (City Managers' News Letter, March 15, 1960)

Inadequate vents on flammable liquid tanks have been responsible for the deaths of 41 firemen in the United States since 1954. (National Fire Protection Association)

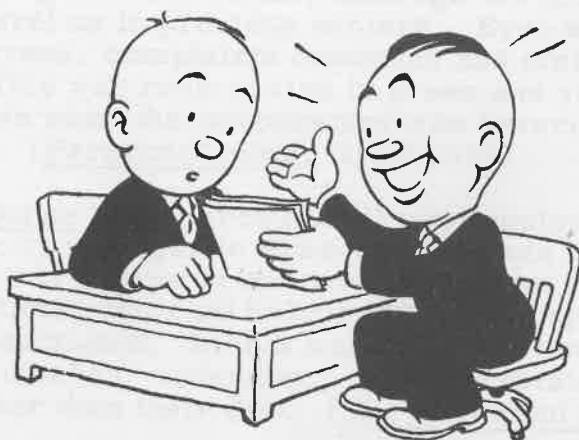
"Checkers have been checked" in the firehouses in Alameda, California, and city firemen put in a full day's constructive work in each 24-hour shift while on the alert for fires. A card file is made up listing different skills of the firemen. When specific job needs arise, the appropriate fireman can be selected by referring to the file. (Public Administration Bulletin, March 1960)

Prisoner handling in one-man patrol cars in Glendale, California, is facilitated by using a seat belt. The prisoner is handcuffed and then "safety-belted" to the seat. (The Police Chief, April 1959)

Fire safety is being promoted in Petersburg, Virginia, by using a house trailer which has been converted and rigged with demonstration and training equipment. It is used extensively to educate school children about how to avoid fires and what to do should fire occur. The trailer was intended to be used primarily for fire prevention education throughout the school system, but industry has also created a great demand for its use in employee training. (Public Management, September 1959)

Automatic sprinklers are the best possible guarantee against loss of life in nursing homes. There has never been a single death from fire reported in a completely sprinklered nursing home. Several states and some municipalities have enacted legislation to enforce such protection. (Building and Fire Inspection, League of Wisconsin Municipalities)

Personnel

A cartoon illustration of two men. The man on the left is balding with a few strands of hair on the sides, looking surprised with wide eyes and an open mouth. The man on the right has dark hair and is pointing his right index finger towards the first man, also looking surprised.

PERSONNEL

A professional training program for city employees in Hollywood, Florida, offers a real incentive for making good grades. The employees enrolling in the program pay all costs in advance. An employee completing the course with a grade of "A" gets a 100 per cent refund of his costs; a grade of "B" entitles him to a 75 per cent refund; the "C" grade employee gets a 50 per cent refund; and a grade of "D" or failing grade means the student must bear the full cost of the course himself. (The Municipal South, February 1960)

A good morale builder on an emergency water break repair job is a pot of boiling coffee.

Warm color walls reduce heat costs according to a report by the New York City personnel council. In offices which were painted blue, the workers complained of being cold all winter, although the temperature was kept at the same level as in previous winters. Even when the heat was raised to 75 degrees, complaints continued and clerical output suffered. Then the office was redecorated in green and yellow. The complaints vanished, even when the temperature was lowered to the previous normal reading. (Personnel News, April 1959)

A "human relations" course is required for all city employees under the supervision of the city manager in Roanoke, Virginia. According to the city manager, this course is not only to acquaint employees with good public relations, but also to bring together representatives of various city departments. In this way, an opportunity is provided for employees to discuss, understand, and appreciate the viewpoints of departments other than their own. (The Municipal South, June 1959)

A code of ethics for all city officials and employees has been recommended in New York City. The code would clarify all existing laws and rules relating to conduct in public office and extend these to unpaid officials. It would prohibit former city employees from appearing before city agencies on behalf of private interests for two years after leaving office, forbid investments conflicting with official obligations, require disclosure by councilmen and employees of any direct or indirect interest in legislation, and forbid acceptance of gifts and favors by officials, officers, and employees. (Personnel News, August 1959)

Health, Safety & Welfare



HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE

"Dear Crossing" signs at school intersections in Miami have slowed motorists far more effectively than uniform school guards, whistles and 15 mph speed zones combined. (American Municipal News, June 15, 1960)

Carbon monoxide fumes from gasoline motors is being reduced by 50 to 60 per cent in Paris, because of a recent French technical discovery. This anti-air pollution discovery is a cheap, practical device, weighing only one pound and measuring 6 x 6 inches, and attaches to the carburetor of trucks and automobiles. (The Municipal South, May 1960)

A bicycle patrol in Dothan, Alabama, composed of 16 boys between the ages of 12 and 14, is very useful in reporting burned out street lights, road hazards and promoting safety in other ways. The boys are provided with special badges and hold weekly meetings at the police station. (Alabama Municipal Journal, November 1958)

A possible cancer-producing agent, benzpyrene, which is also found in cigarette tars, is universally present in the air of American cities, according to a study made by the United States Public Health Service. The report stated that a non-smoker, living in an American city, is exposed to more benzpyrene than a person in a non-urban area who smokes a pack of cigarettes a day. (The American City, August 1960)

An optional means of fluoridating water in communities, individual homes, and farm supplies may be possible if tests being conducted by the U. S. Public Health Service are successful. A device produced by Permutit Div. that adds 1 ppm of fluoride to tap water, regardless of flow rate, has been installed in 300 homes. The device could be installed on a lease basis for a charge now estimated at \$3.00 per month. (American Water Works Association Journal, July 1960)

Remodeling old buildings is faster and cheaper than constructing new housing units, according to the City of Philadelphia. The city recently experimented on an old run-down building, which was rebuilt for lease. Unit cost for land, building and rehabilitation: \$9,500. Unit cost of new public row-housing: \$17,291. (Engineering News-Record, August 6, 1959)

A new school traffic signal controller is designed for operation at mid-block crossings--by far the safer locations for school crossings, since there is no turning traffic for children to avoid. The signal normally displays the highway "Go" indication. Operation of a push button by a pedestrian changes the signal to pedestrian crossing. During morning, noon, and afternoon periods, when maximum protection is necessary, the signal operates automatically in response to push buttons. At all other times of day, a time switch in the electronic controller renders push buttons inoperative, and the signal continuously displays the normal highway "Go." (Crouse-Hinds Company, Syracuse, New York)

"Tommy Gets the Keys," a film produced by the B. F. Goodrich Company, Akron, Ohio, is dedicated to making the nation's youth safer drivers. The movie makes the point that sportsmanship, plus courtesy and skill are basic ingredients of good driving practices. The film goes a long way toward instilling in young people a sense of responsibility that should accompany the driving privilege. Arrangements for showing the film can be made through local B. F. Goodrich representatives. (The Nebraska Municipal Review, November 1959)

Family fallout shelters are being encouraged by the FHA. Contractors and private individuals are asked to set an example by incorporating shelters in new housing developments, new subdivisions and model homes. (American Municipal News, December 31, 1959)

A gas vent design has been perfected which, according to the manufacturer, seems to satisfy all theoretical requirements. Laboratory tests indicate that the vent is sufficiently insulated to prevent over-heating, stops condensation difficulties, and is able to exhaust all combustion gases--even during a cold start. The vent offers excellent corrosion-resistance and is not expensive. (Gas Vent Institute, 332 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 4, Illinois)

Pigeons skid on the unbelievable slickness resulting from spraying the surface with a super varnish that is a colorless liquid. This varnish, used in London, England, is sprayed on with a gun. (American Municipal News, November 30, 1959)

Exhaust control devices for motor vehicles are mandatory under a new California law. Types of "smog-suppressors" for new and used vehicles will be approved by a board. (Texas Town & City, April 1960)

Crash tests, conducted by the California Division of Highways, determined that the combination cable-chain link barrier satisfied all criteria as the most efficient of the 15 barriers tested. It functioned efficiently both in low-speed, low-angle collisions and in high-speed, high-angle collisions with passenger cars and in high-speed and high-angle collisions with buses. It also will support a growth of ivy or other vines to serve as a screen. (Civil Engineering, November 1959)

Seat belts are required to be worn by state employees of New York when driving state vehicles. Studies have indicated that seat belts reduced fatalities and major injuries in automobile accidents by more than 50 per cent. (Public Management, October 1959)

A "spiked grain" program has been launched against pigeons in Salinas, California. Fed alcohol-soaked grain, the pigeons pass out and are picked up and disposed of. (Commercial Appeal, November 12, 1959)

Jukebox sounds not confined to the premises will subject cafe proprietors in Mexico City to fines or loss of licenses under a new extension of the city's anti-noise campaign. Health authorities have found that constant city noises shatter nerves and cause undue exhaustion. (Knoxville Journal, December 3, 1959)

Speeding ambulances have killed more people than they have saved, according to a committee appointed by the American College of Surgeons to study problems involved in transporting injured persons to hospitals. According to a report of the committee's findings: "Speed is, for practical purposes, seldom, if ever, a factor in the preservation of a life. And speeding ambulances have occasioned more traffic deaths than lives saved by rushing pell-mell to medical facilities." (The Knoxville News Sentinel, January 15, 1960)

Estimated 1960 property taxes for the city of Cleveland are \$1.2 billion, an increase of 10% over 1959. The city's share of the state's general fund is \$1.2 billion. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, December 1, 1959)

The city of Cleveland is planning to build a new \$1.2 billion hotel, the first of a series of hotels to be built in the city. The plan, approved by the city council, calls for the hotel to be built on a 10-acre site in the city's downtown area. The hotel would be built on the site of the old city hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1928. The hotel would be built on the site of the old city hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1928. The hotel would be built on the site of the old city hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1928. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, December 1, 1959)

Cleveland's urban renewal program is expected to increase the city's income by \$1.2 billion over the next five years. The program, which was approved by the city council, calls for the city to build a new \$1.2 billion hotel, the first of a series of hotels to be built in the city. The plan, approved by the city council, calls for the hotel to be built on a 10-acre site in the city's downtown area. The hotel would be built on the site of the old city hall, which was destroyed by fire in 1928. (Cleveland Plain Dealer, July 1, 1959)

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FINANCE AND TAXATION

Depressed expressways cause less drop in adjacent property values than do those built on an elevated roadway. (Bulletin, December 1959)

Public pay phones are expected to bring about \$1,600,000 in new revenue into the city treasury of New York City. The plan, approved by city council, calls for installation of 2,000 single and multiple public telephone booths on city owned property. The city would collect commissions--ranging from 10 to 20 per cent--on the receipts from these booths. (Pennsylvania League of Cities, September-October 1959)

Auctioning used cars rather than trading them in, replacing them after 40,000 miles instead of 60,000, and buying a year's supply of cars at one time, have saved Winston-Salem, North Carolina, several thousand dollars. (Bulletin, December 1959)

Completed urban renewal projects increase tax revenues "an average of 300 per cent," says David M. Walker, Commissioner, Urban Renewal Administration. He called higher tax revenue and improved physical plant a means of achieving the goal of "social and spiritual advancement--better environment for living and working." (Texas Town & City, July 1960)

Investing current operating funds in short-term government bills earned the City of Atlanta \$100,000 in six months. Until last year, unspent tax money had been placed in banks where it earned no interest. (Missouri Municipal Review, September 1960)

Municipal liquor stores in 393 Minnesota cities produced a total net income of \$7,209,831 in 1959. (Minnesota Municipalities, July 1960)

Subsidizing the repair of run-down property in the same way slum clearance is aided can save money on urban renewal bills for federal and city governments. Under a plan suggested by Arthur Hoff, Assistant Director of Redevelopment for Oakland, California, cities would get federal funds to buy houses that do not meet reasonable standards. The houses then would be auctioned to the highest bidder--former owners would be invited to bid also. With the purchase would go a covenant requiring that the new owner bring the property up to prescribed standards. (Public Administration Bulletin, June 1960)

Printed legal opinions will be carried on the reverse side of the City of Salina, Kansas, bonds which were sold recently. If experience of other states is a criterion, most of the future larger issues will carry the printed opinions. (Kansas Bond Advisory Council Newsletter, December 1, 1959)

Fly ash from Cleveland's city light plant will bring \$10,000 a year revenue to the city. Last year, the city paid \$30,000 to haul it to a dump and give it away. The ash is used as a binding agent in concrete and other materials. (New Jersey Municipalities, June 1960)

Tax benefits to encourage industry to clear and develop slum areas have been recommended in Memphis, Tennessee. The plan would extend tax benefits to an industry for a specified period, providing the industry clears the area and erects new buildings. (The Municipal South, April 1960)

Water
& Sewage



Water & Sewage



WATER AND SEWAGE

Water can be re-used, over and over again, and for many purposes. The cost of water supplies developed by techniques for re-use will be less than one-tenth of the cost of water supplies developed by some of the more exotic means, such as de-salting ocean waters. Certainly one of the first points of attack should be pollution abatement. (Civil Engineering, February 1960)

City water and sewer services in Traverse City, Michigan, are provided to homeowners outside the city. But to get these services, non-residents must contract to pay an amount equal to city property taxes in addition to fees for water and sewer plus the cost of running the pipes out to the users. (South Dakota Municipalities, December 1959)

An automatic water testing instrument, the Mark II Dissolved Oxygen Recorder, was unveiled recently for the first time in the United States. This instrument will automatically draw off a pre-determined water sample, test it immediately, and record its findings on tape. Continual testing is thus possible, if desired. A major advantage is that the sample is drawn directly from the sources of the water. This eliminates a time lag between obtaining a sample and carrying out the test, guaranteeing that the water tested is the same as the water from its source. (The Nebraska Municipal Review, October 1959)

An "industrial waste party" in Louisville, Kentucky, will check on wastes put into the sewers by industrial plants and determine whether present regulations are adequate. (Engineering News-Record, October 29, 1959)

A pipe cleaning apparatus, being used in Sterling, Illinois, avoids sterilization problems because pipes are installed clean. The cleaner is made of three common scrub brushes, on springs, built around a half-inch pipe based with holes. The supply of water is from a garden hose feeding a 20-foot length of half-inch pipe. A handle at the opposite end enables the operator to revolve the brush. (Water and Sewage Works, March 1959)

Manhole cover thievery has been discouraged in St. Louis by replacing the standard cast iron covers with a concrete cover which has no salvage value. (Wastes Engineering, August 1960)

A construction permit is required in Missouri whenever an existing sewer is extended, or when new sewers are constructed to serve a subdivision, or new built-up areas. To obtain the permit, plans and specifications of the proposed sewers, prepared by a registered professional engineer, must be submitted to the Water Pollution Board. (Missouri Municipal Review, August 1960)

Factory-made plastisol joints, readily available and at reasonable cost, make it possible and practical to lay sewers which are nearly bottle-tight. (Wastes Engineering, May 1960)

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Water can be re-used, over and over again, and for many purposes. The cost of water supplies developed by techniques for re-use will be less than one-tenth of the cost of water supplies developed by some of the more exotic means, such as de-salting ocean waters. Certainly one of the first points of attack should be pollution abatement. (Civil Engineering, February 1960)

City water and sewer services in Traverse City, Michigan, are provided to homeowners outside the city. But to get these services, non-residents must contract to pay an amount equal to city property taxes in addition to fees for water and sewer plus the cost of running the pipes out to the users. (South Dakota Municipalities, December 1959)

An automatic water testing instrument, the Mark II Dissolved Oxygen Recorder, was unveiled recently for the first time in the United States. This instrument will automatically draw off a pre-determined water sample, test it immediately, and record its findings on tape. Continual testing is thus possible, if desired. A major advantage is that the sample is drawn directly from the sources of the water. This eliminates a time lag between obtaining a sample and carrying out the test, guaranteeing that the water tested is the same as the water from its source. (The Nebraska Municipal Review, October 1959)

An "industrial waste party" in Louisville, Kentucky, will check on wastes put into the sewers by industrial plants and determine whether present regulations are adequate. (Engineering News-Record, October 29, 1959)

A pipe cleaning apparatus, being used in Sterling, Illinois, avoids sterilization problems because pipes are installed clean. The cleaner is made of three common scrub brushes, on springs, built around a half-inch pipe banded with holes. The supply of water is from a garden hose feeding a 20-foot length of half-inch pipe. A handle at the opposite end enables the operator to revolve the brush. (Water and Sewage Works, March 1959)

Manhole cover thievery has been discouraged in St. Louis by replacing the standard cast iron covers with a concrete cover which has no salvage value. (Wastes Engineering, August 1960)

A construction permit is required in Missouri whenever an existing sewer is extended, or when new sewers are constructed to serve a subdivision, or new built-up areas. To obtain the permit, plans and specifications of the proposed sewers, prepared by a registered professional engineer, must be submitted to the Water Pollution Board. (Missouri Municipal Review, August 1960)

Factory-made plastisol joints, readily available and at reasonable cost, make it possible and practical to lay sewers which are nearly bottle-tight. (Wastes Engineering, May 1960)

An impending national water shortage is not necessary, according to the Senate Select Committee on Water Resources, if proper steps are taken now. The Committee suggests that this crisis can be avoided by: (1) Construction of additional storage facilities to retain a larger share of rainfall that now runs unimpeded to the oceans, and (2) extending the usefulness of existing supplies by more vigorous practice of pollution control. (Public Works, October 1960)

Concrete sewer pipe can be made more resistant to corrosion by lining the inside with vinyl chloride sheets. Experiments have demonstrated that this material effectively stops disintegration of metals and concrete in sewage systems. It is now protecting over seven million square feet of pipe and structures. Of all the methods used to prevent sewer corrosion, it appears to be the most versatile and the one coming closest to having all the properties of the ideal lining material. (Civil Engineering, May 1960)

To avoid water main breaks, Philadelphia encases the new mains in six inches of clean sand. The trench is excavated to six inches below the bottom of the pipe and backfilled with sand; the pipe is firmly embedded in the sand; and, after the joints have been made, sand is placed around the pipe to a full thickness of six inches. Good construction is the best way to avoid breaks. (American Water Works Association, August 1960)

Restricting water to sewerred areas only, a 1958 ruling, is helping Cleveland, Ohio, free its water supply, Lake Erie, of pollution. This decision has also slowed down the random "leap-frog" development that had previously scattered far and wide over open, unsewered countryside. (Engineering News-Record, September 29, 1960)

Sewage treatment plants can be designed so that units serving a first group of houses can be converted to other uses and combined with additional treatment units when additional houses are built. In other words, plants may be designed in two, three, or more stages to handle the future volume of sewage and give the degree of treatment required. (Fringe Area Sewerage Problems, University of Florida, March 1960)

PARKS AND RECREATION

Cooling street showers for New York City's tenement children will be provided from 1,000 low-pressure fire hydrants equipped with special perforated caps. This arrangement is aimed at discouraging illegal openings of fire hydrants, which lowers the water pressure and floods streets. At the same time, the children are assured of their summer treat. Responsible adults in the neighborhoods will be put in charge of the new shower caps. They will be given wrenches to turn on the orange-colored devices. (The New York Times, May 11, 1960)

Artificial waves can be created in swimming pools by a mechanical wave machine. Two movable panel doors of structural steelwork in the front of the swimming pool, driven by a crank mechanism and gear-boxes, rhythmically push the water forward, and are designed to make a re-entering angle with the side wall of the pool. The machine is in use in several European countries. (Park Maintenance, March 1960)

Children enjoy themselves most in play areas with trees and foliage; where they have space, and freedom to move; where there are hills and varied terrain; where they can watch big transportation vehicles--trucks, buses, and trains. (The American City, May 1960)

Park sites are purchased at the time a large subdivision is laid out in Shreveport, Louisiana. By purchasing the undeveloped land and holding it until the population is large enough to warrant a park, the city saves about \$3,000 an acre. (National Recreation Association Newsletter, September 1960)

Power poles were used in the construction of an authentic and useful log cabin in a 250-acre park in Boone, Iowa. The logs for the cabin were obtained from the Fort Dodge Line, a local electric railroad which "dieselized" recently. The transmission poles, which were no longer needed, were sold to the park at a nominal cost. The cabin is used mainly by Scouts in the area. (Park Maintenance, March 1960)

An artificial ice skating rink is being made by converting a swimming pool in Waltham, Massachusetts. The pool will be bridged with light-weight steel bar joists overlaid by plywood and covered by waterproof membrane, over which the refrigeration piping will be laid. This conversion will cost \$7.27 per square foot. (Engineering News-Record, December 19, 1959)

Synthetic topsoil produced from digested sludge is being used in parks in New York City. Experiments showed that the sludge, mixed with sand fill on completed landfill areas, produced satisfactory green cover at a fraction of the cost of imported topsoil. (The American City, September 1959)

Concrete signs with a simulated rustic appearance have almost eliminated extensive destruction of signs by vandals in the parks of Union County, New Jersey. (Park Maintenance, June 1959)

Self-service, coin-operated lockers for the automatic checking of swimming pool users' clothing and valuables have been installed at a bath house in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This new system allows patrons to place their possessions in the locker, insert a coin, lock the door and keep the key. (Park Maintenance, March 1960)

"Parkettes," so-called because they are only about an acre square, have been established in congested areas in Pittsburgh. Mothers can take their small children--where older youngsters are not allowed to play--to these "parkettes" which are equipped with swings, sand boxes, etc. (Pennsylvania League of Cities, November-December 1959)

Inexpensive shelters for public parks, parking areas, drive-ins, and service stations can be made of thin reinforced plastic sheets supported by hollow plastic beams. The plastic sheets can be ordered in almost any color and require virtually no maintenance. (Architectural Forum, April 1960)

Refuse collection vehicles are dispatched to Grand Forks, North Dakota, at all points of the city to collect refuse. These vehicles are painted in the same different colors with different lettering to read: "City of Grand Forks, North Dakota" (The American City, September 1960)

Refuse

An interesting idea for refuse collection is to use a "Refuse" vehicle, a small truck with a "Refuse" sign on the side. The vehicle is painted in the same different colors with different lettering to read: "City of Grand Forks, North Dakota" (The American City, September 1960)

The largest refuse trucks are used to collect garbage and refuse in the Washington Metropolitan District. The vehicles are painted in the same different colors with different lettering to read: "City of Washington, D.C." (The American City, September 1960)

The Refuse Truck is a small truck which carries refuse. The vehicle is painted in the same different colors with different lettering to read: "City of Washington, D.C." (The American City, September 1960)

Refuse trucks are a big part of the city's refuse collection system. The vehicles are painted in the same different colors with different lettering to read: "City of Washington, D.C." (The American City, September 1960)



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REFUSE

Refuse collection calendars are distributed in Grand Forks, North Dakota, to all residents of the city to show all collection dates. Three calendars are printed for the three different routes with collection dates printed in red. (The Municipal South, December 1959)

An incinerator turns its waste heat into steam for two factories, and hot water for a 1,200-bed general hospital, a 120-bed children's hospital, a dental institute, and a school. The new incinerator was constructed in Berne, Switzerland. (The American City, February 1960)

Big burlap drop cloths are used to collect garbage and rubbish in the Washington Suburban Sanitary District. The workers spread the cloths on the lawn, empty the cans from two adjacent homes in it, tie it up as you would tie a bundle of laundry in a sheet, put back the cans, and carry out only the drop cloth bundle. A supply of cloths can be left in a neighborhood when a packer truck is not available, and the collectors get curb-side bundles all ready for the packer.

The Nashville City Beautiful Commission inserted with the water bills a small note which read: "Did you know it is costing you taxpayers this year \$748,753.60 to pick up the trash, litter, and garbage of Nashville? Help keep your city clean. Help keep taxes down."

Paper bag liners for garbage cans in Fredericksburg, Virginia, will reduce collection and disposal costs over 10 per cent per year and thereby will prevent an increase in service charges, according to the city manager. For the past year, garbage has been removed in sturdy, quiet bags made from wet strength, water repellent paper. Seldom do the noisy, metal garbage containers leave the premises. (Virginia Municipal Review, January 1960)

An incentive plan for refuse collection crews in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, is saving the city about \$30,000 per year in payroll costs. The new plan provides pay on the basis of a 44-hour week with the men working as long as the collection actually requires. The program was based on careful study and layout of collection routes, purchase of 25 refuse collection vehicles, and closer supervision. Savings have been effected through elimination of personnel on certain routes and elimination of overtime pay. (Public Management, February 1960)

Informing on trash-tossers earns the informer a \$50 award if the information results in the conviction of the person charged, in Dearborn, Michigan. The city has a \$100 fine in such cases. (Public Management, September 1959)

An electrically-operated backyard pick-up cart has been adopted for refuse collection in Claremont, California. Experience proved that the battery-operated vehicle, with one crewman as operator, can pick up approximately twice as much refuse as a crewman and manual transfer cart. (Western City, October 1959)

Chicago's highway system and traffic is a complex, dynamic system that has evolved over the years. The city's population has grown from 1 million in 1900 to over 3 million today. The highway system has expanded from a few main roads to a complex network of expressways and freeways. The traffic system has become more complex, with more vehicles and more people using the roads. The parking system has also become more complex, with more cars and more people needing places to park. The city's transportation system is a complex, dynamic system that has evolved over the years.

Traffic & Parking

From the time the first car was introduced by Henry Ford in 1908, the city's transportation system has been in a constant state of flux. The city's population has grown from 1 million in 1900 to over 3 million today. The highway system has expanded from a few main roads to a complex network of expressways and freeways. The traffic system has become more complex, with more vehicles and more people using the roads. The parking system has also become more complex, with more cars and more people needing places to park. The city's transportation system is a complex, dynamic system that has evolved over the years.

Planned parking is a key element of the city's transportation system. It is a way to ensure that there are enough places for cars to park. It is also a way to ensure that the parking is in the right places. The city's parking system is a complex, dynamic system that has evolved over the years. It is a way to ensure that there are enough places for cars to park. It is also a way to ensure that the parking is in the right places. The city's parking system is a complex, dynamic system that has evolved over the years.

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TRAFFIC AND PARKING

Colored parking meters are used in Kingston, Ontario, to indicate maximum parking time. Different colors assist motorists in choosing a meter which fits their needs. Meter limits range from 12 minutes to 5 hours. (Pennsylvania League of Cities, November-December 1959)

Free parking on city parking lots has been promoted by merchants in Zion, Illinois (pop. 8,950). Approximately 95 per cent of the merchants and professional people in the city's downtown area have pledged voluntarily to reimburse the city the approximate amount that was collected from the parking meters on the parking lots during the last fiscal year. Because of the development of a large suburban shopping center near the city, the provision of free parking in the downtown area was considered a competitive necessity. (Municipal Finance News Letter, June 1959)

Staggered work schedules for downtown employees in Nashville to relieve the peak periods of traffic congestion have been proposed by Mayor Ben West. By a balancing arrangement, worked out with the business and industrial community, these schedules could be coordinated to spread the traffic movement--to work and home again--instead of concentrating it in one peak hour each morning and evening. (Nashville Banner, December 18, 1959)

Elevated sidewalks, 16 feet or more above street level, are being considered by London, England, authorities. This is part of a proposed multi-level circulation system which would separate motorists and pedestrians from the same level of movement. (American Municipal News, March 15, 1960)

Use of self-luminous, isotope-activated informational and directional signs on highways is entirely feasible according to the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads. Advantages are lower maintenance costs than electrically operated signs and good visibility, especially in overhead locations. (Engineering News-Record, August 11, 1960)

One man, watching television, directs the traffic in the heart of Munich, Germany, by using a small television camera perched discreetly atop a fifty-foot pole off in one corner of the square. The man who operates the camera is in police headquarters half a mile away. He is the sole audience for the telecast. He is in charge of all the traffic signals at the intersection, which are manipulated by a control panel on his desk. (The Lamp, Summer 1960)

If 85 per cent or more drivers violate a speed sign, then the sign should be changed, not the drivers. Slow signs should be placed where there is enough roadside development to cause the drivers to see the reason for the low speed sign. When practically everyone disregards a ridiculous sign, the answer is not to put radar out and make law violators out of safe drivers and respectable citizens, but to change the speed limit to a more realistic one. (Street Engineering, April 1960)

Parking fines are collected in Spokane, Washington, at a curb station box containing a pneumatic tube device which carries the parking citation and payment from the curb to the traffic desk. This device has reduced foot traffic into the police desk by almost 50 per cent, and has relieved the parking situation in front of the city hall. This procedure has had a very fine effect on public relations since people do not like to face another person when posting a traffic bond. Effecting this transaction through a mechanical device seems to relieve this situation. (Traffic Safety, June 1960)

Round street corners are favored over the conventional square corners in Little Rock, Arkansas. The round corners help to speed up traffic at busy intersections. (The Municipal South, February 1960)

Wet weather warnings have improved Washington's safety record. The U. S. Weather Bureau provides short range forecasts and adds the warning of anticipated bad driving conditions to its local forecast. The warning system goes into action. By radio, TV, telephone and word of mouth, people are told, "Be careful. Stay home, if possible. It's raining." You don't save lives in traffic by being subtle. (Traffic Safety, June 1960)

Citizens witnessing a traffic violation in Evanston, Illinois, will be asked to fill out a card prepared by the city. The card lists the date, time, place, and nature of the violation, the car and driver involved. On the back of the card is a form for follow-up to be used by the police. The card notes that the information is confidential and the person's name will not be used in connection with any corrective action taken without his consent. (Public Management, September 1960)

Students are prohibited from driving to school in Wayne, Michigan. No student is permitted to enter an automobile at any time during the school day except that of parents or adult drivers approved by parents and school. (NIMLO Municipal Ordinance Review, November 1959)

Oil drums slotted to take two-inch planks make a stable, easy-to-handle road barricade. One man can move the horizontal plank to permit passage of trucks and leave the drums standing without the cross bar. Road flares set on top of the drums are easily visible yet relatively safe from traffic. (Engineering News-Record, November 26, 1959)

Flashing beacons at simpler types of intersections are proving more effective than standard stop-and-go traffic signals. In an 89-city survey, beacons cut accidents, number of persons injured, and number of fatalities, each by half at intersections where installed. (Texas Town & City, February 1960)

Color-coated, reflective roads, which perform a guidance function around the clock, were found to speed up traffic by increasing driver awareness of inter-change ramps in a seven-week test conducted in Minnesota. (Civil Engineering, March 1960)

Sound metering equipment is being used at busy intersections in Memphis to check the noise made by trucks. (Commercial Appeal, June 26, 1960)

Yellow traffic signals, rather than green, will be installed throughout the City of Philadelphia. The use of yellow signal heads will provide greater visibility, and their installation will be a positive step in the city's traffic safety program. The streets commissioner explained that green signal heads have not proven satisfactory from a visibility standpoint since they blend with the leaves of the trees. (Division of Public Information, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.)

A Traffic Safety School is being conducted by the police department in Sayreville, New Jersey, in an effort to improve the traffic accident picture. Policemen issue a warning ticket to any driver who commits an error on the road, whether legal or moral. This ticket warns the driver to attend the Traffic Safety School when he is notified later. A person so warned who fails to appear subjects himself to a regular traffic summons. Such a method is effective to force motorists to secure knowledge on safe driving against their own will. A motorist who knows very little about driving thinks he knows all, and will not voluntarily improve himself. (New Jersey Municipalities, February 1960)

Over-night street parking permits cost Milwaukee motorists four dollars per month. This charge is made in order to get the cars off the streets rather than to raise money. Money taken in, however, is used to buy parking lots in both business and residential areas. (American Municipal News, April 1960)

"Public transportation is just as much a public service as the police department, the sewage system, the schools or the roads," answers Victor Gruen to the question whether operation should be by private enterprise or by a city government. "It is in the nature of public services that they cannot be successfully operated in the framework of the profit motive." (U. S. News & World Report, June 20, 1960)

The effect of a highway by-pass on business was tested in Toledo, Ohio. For 45 days no traffic was allowed in the central business district which was converted into a pedestrian mall. After 45 days, 70 per cent of the merchants reported sales higher than a year ago. Away from the mall, only 56 per cent noted improved sales. (The Bulletin, October 1959)

Two-way radios have been installed in the entire fleet of 300 buses of the Rochester, New York, Transit System. Better service is possible by using the radios to help eliminate the bunching of buses headed in the same direction on the same line. Also, the radios help to replace buses which may become mechanically disabled on the road. (The American City, October 1959)

Public Relations



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Highway portraits done in oil are Wisconsin's latest and most effective weapon for winning public understanding and acceptance of proposed road improvements projects. The king-sized oil paintings show more accurately than any other tool thus far used, the general plan, as well as the smallest details, of planned improvements. (Public Works, November 1959)

Strangers are welcomed into Fort Pierce, Florida, by being presented with their application for light and water service, a "share" of the city in a "stock certificate" entitling the recipient to "participate in all activities of this municipal corporation." This certificate lists emergency and city hall telephone numbers and has on the back a map showing the location of city hall and other public buildings. This resort city also places a paper "key" on out-of-state cars in lieu of parking tickets. It urges motorists both to obey the traffic laws and to return to Fort Pierce. (Public Management, July 1959)

Uniforms, according to the city manager of Merced, California, make municipal employees readily identifiable, improve neatness and better appearance, create a business-like impression, and improve employee morale. (City Managers' News Letter, September 1, 1959)

Proper timing is important from the standpoint of economies and good public relations. Examples of poor timing would be such things as placing needed restrictions on curb parking during a period of temporary business recession; increasing water rates during the summer months; the installation of a traffic signal the day after a fatality at that location; patching an asphalt street a few days before the street is completely torn up and reconditioned under a new program; cutting a new pavement for water and sewer lines shortly after the new pavement is installed. (Texas Town & City, November 1959)

Monthly breakfast meetings of the mayor, city commission, and other Memphis officials concerned with urban renewal have proven successful for coordinating and reporting. Only one participant has missed a meeting over a two-year period, and that because he had to be out of town. (Public Administration News, November 1959)

A workshop in local government, sponsored by the City of San Leandro, California, was held to familiarize junior and senior high school teachers of government courses with the actual workings of city government. The teachers felt they lacked first-hand knowledge of governmental operations. All participants agreed that the workshop was invaluable in promoting better understanding and appreciation of city government. (Public Management, September 1960)

Painting a town or a neighborhood as a means of enhancing the attractiveness of a community has proved a successful urban renewal tool in a number of small western towns. These paint-ups are done according to a coordinated color plan which provides the harmony of color and architecture that make up the personality of a community. (Urban Renewal Notes, July-August 1960)

Postcards for recording complaints received in the field are distributed to street maintenance employees in Cincinnati, Ohio. Whenever one of the employees is requested by a citizen to do any work which is not included in his job or is informed about any matter for which the city is responsible, the citizen is given one of these postcards and courteously requested to use it to report the matter. Upon receipt of this postcard at city hall, an investigation is made and the citizen is informed what action will be taken by the city. (Street Engineering, December 1959)

Interest in local government by young people is stimulated by interschool civics-quiz competitions in Great Britain. Local librarians vouched for the effectiveness of such contests as a means of getting youngsters interested in civic affairs as well as furnishing first-class entertainment. (Personnel News, August 1959)

People have a right to know what you're doing for them and what you're doing with their money. A public relations consultant suggested that instead of having a truck or other equipment marked: "Property of the City of Green Bay" or "Property of the Village of Shorewood," why not change one word in the stencil and mark it: "Property of the People of Green Bay" or "Property of the People of Shorewood." (The Municipality, January 1960)

Automotive traffic is not permitted in four blocks of one of New York City's commercial section thoroughfares between noon and 2 p. m. each day. Someone just thought that office workers out for lunch would like an opportunity to do some relaxed strolling without having to fight the crowded sidewalks. (Alabama League of Municipalities, February 1960)

The "meter maids" in Columbia, South Carolina, carry change for the convenience of drivers using parking meters and also carry guidebooks to aid visitors and newcomers in finding their way around. (City Managers' News Letter, September 1, 1959)

"Municipal Services and Other Information" is the title of a brochure distributed to newcomers in Western Springs, Illinois, a village of approximately 10,000 residents. Included in the brochure are license fees, water rates, refuse collection days, and special facts about the village.

Complaints about high heating bills are partially satisfied in Athens, Tennessee, by displaying in the utilities department headlines from the past winter's newspapers which tell about the extreme cold weather.

A daily bulletin for publication of pertinent information has become an invaluable adjunct to the large police agencies. Personnel are advised of that portion of the previous day's offenses and news necessary for them to work effectively as a team. (FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, April 1960)

Suggestions on improving city services were solicited from Modesto, California, residents after they read the town's annual report. Inserted in the summary of the year's municipal achievements was a blank asking citizens how to do a better job. The city manager reported that he received thoughtful responses and constructive ideas on the returned forms. (The Nebraska Municipal Review, December 1959)

Miscellaneous



MISCELLANEOUS

A growing desire for beauty among the American people is evidenced by a recent ordinance in Philadelphia. In that city, one percent of the construction cost of every public building will henceforth be devoted to some art work to enhance that building. (Ohio Cities and Villages, July 1960)

"Bounty hunters" in Athens, Tennessee, can earn 50¢ for each stray dog they can pick up and bring into the dog pound. The dogs' pictures will be taken and posted on a bulletin board in city hall, where owners of missing dogs may come to identify them. (Athens Post-Athenian, September 7, 1960)

Mileage tests of various tires revealed that Chicago's lowest tire cost per mile comes from buying the cheapest first line tire as long as it meets a standard that can be checked by cutting into the tire. While this cutting test does not show total tire quality, Chicago has found that it provides enough of a guaranty for open bidding. (Public Administration Bulletin, July 1960)

Coating windows of Atlanta's municipal library with a plastic tint is reducing air-conditioning costs and at the same time eliminating glare and fade from the sun. Grand Prairie, Texas, is saving \$50 per month in air-conditioning costs by using the same product on the windows of its city hall. (The American City, May 1960)

A wide green belt, which completely surrounds the city, is being bought by Ottawa, Canada. The two-and-one-half-mile-wide strip will cost \$30 million and cover a total of 57 square miles. (Public Administration Bulletin, May 1960)

Winter retreads are giving an average of 25,000 miles service on United States mail trucks operating out of Pittsburgh. A new type of abrasion-resistant rubber is used for the retread stock. (Highway Highlights, January 1960)

Applicants for a dog license in Ojai, California, are required to provide a snapshot of the dog to assist in identifying lost dogs and animals that have bitten a person. (City Managers' News Letter, January 15, 1960)

Decentralization has in some ways enhanced the appeal of the city as a site for industry. More and more, the central city has come to specialize in industries that not only offer products as their stock in trade, but products in a hurry. As such, the city has become the haven for the unusual, the unorthodox industry which lives in uncertainty and seeks company for comfort. (Architectural Forum, December 1959)

A new windscreen fence made of translucent panels of reinforced fiber glass extends the swimming pool season in Westminster, Colorado. The barrier also helps to keep debris from the swimming pool area. (The American City, February 1960)

A drive-in pay window has been a big help in speeding utility payments in Camden, South Carolina. Approximately one-third of the city's utility customers use the drive-in window. (The American City, March 1960)

A zoning for industry, in Britain, merely gets a particular firm a first hearing. After an assessment has been made as to the likely effect on the traffic pattern, the balance of employment, the pollution of the air, the demands on water supplies and power plants, and many other factors, it is decided whether the site is feasible. This is an overall approach to land use and helps to prevent wrong planning. (Traffic Quarterly, January 1960)

Sixty concrete planter tubs have been placed on the busiest corners of the City of Birmingham, Alabama, to add a note of beauty to the drab street furniture. The uncolored concrete tubs, 30 inches square and movable, combine practicality with charm and cost little to construct. (Alabama Municipal Journal, August 1959)

Shatterproof plastic light bowls are being used in San Fernando, California, to avoid replacement. This plastic light bowl was tested for eight months and offered an added advantage in addition to its being shatterproof. It is "self-sealing" and will keep weather and insects away from the light bulb even though the bowl may be pierced by 22 and larger caliber bullets. (Western City, September 1959)

A quick-wash rack was built by employees of the City of Temple, Texas, at a cost of \$896.36 for materials, including all pipe for drainage as well as a hardtop road to and from the rack. The city manager labeled the rack as one of the finest pieces of equipment for preventive maintenance, as he believes a clean piece of equipment is used, driven, and worked better by employees. (The Municipal South, May 1959)

Stray dogs and cats, injured wild fowl and other animals are the object of a teenager patrol in Massapequa, New York. Working with state and municipal officials and a veterinarian, the youngsters have four cars and three boats ready to track down animals in need. They maintain an emergency room in the basement of the home of the youth who started the program five years ago. (The Nebraska Municipal Review, October 1959)

Mobile election equipment--three aluminum trailers for the storage of booths, folding tables and chairs, ballot boxes and cards --is expected to save considerable money for San Mateo County, California. It will eliminate the need for renting space in buildings in the outlying areas, and it will simplify the maintenance and checking of election equipment at a central point. (Public Management, April 1960)