

municipal purposes, public baths, parks and squares and the flushing of sewers and streets, all of which have greatly increased in the past ten years.

Water Rates and Meters

The charge for water to the citizens is met by a municipal tax on all householders of 6% on the assessed rental. This tax is commonly called the water rates, but it does not necessarily represent the cost of the water service. The flat rate method of charging for water is not conducive to economy from the operating point of view. The citizens have no direct inducement to economize on water, and it calls for more rigid house to house inspection of fixtures if wastage is to be controlled.

Meters are placed only in certain commercial and manufacturing establishments, and other institutions where the use of water requires control against wastage. There are about 85,000 water services and only 1,668 meters in use; that is less than 2% of services are metered.

The meter rate regardless of the quantity of water used is \$1.15 per 1,000 cu. ft., or about 18½ cents per 1,000 Imperial gallons. For fire protection, no charge is made for water used. The proprietor may install fire protection services of 4-in., 6-in., or 8-in. on his premises for sprinkler or stand pipes supply by paying the whole cost of laying the service, and excepting in certain manufacturing establishments which are all by meter, no charge is made for the water used for this service.

Projected Extensions

At present the city has under consideration many extensions to its water works plant. Two thirty-million-gallon electrically-driven pumps are contracted for to be delivered within a year. Plans are being prepared for enlarging the filtration plant to a capacity of 130 million gallons per day. To supplement the present limited conduit supply of 80 millions, the aqueduct is to be prepared for service to convey additional water and also to furnish power in a modified form. Additional reservoir capacity and increase in the number of force mains are also projected in the near future.

LONDON WATER WORKS EXTENSIONS HELD UP

COMMISSIONER PHILIP POCOCK, of London, Ont., declares that the London Water Works Act should be changed as soon as possible to permit the city system to expand proportionately to London's present and future growth. This act requires all surpluses in the water works department to be turned over to the city at the end of the year. Mr. Pocock believes that water works surpluses should be left in the department and thus make outside financing unnecessary. No more mains will be laid this year, or services installed because of a lack of funds.

Mr. Pocock states that London had lost a splendid opportunity in not developing the Komoka springs as a water supply. "They can be developed to-day," he stated, "but it would cost twice what it would have cost when first proposed. There are two million gallons available there of pure, spring water. A private corporation would have long since had them turned into London's water system, but we are held up by people who look on water rates as taxes when they are really commodity charges, and by an insistence that our surpluses be not used for natural development."

A resolution designed to assist shipbuilding yards in carrying out their contracts for vessels over 3,000 tons, has been placed on the order paper of the House of Commons in the name of Sir Henry Drayton, minister of finance. The resolution provides that the minister of finance may be authorized by the Governor-in-Council to endorse promissory notes drawn by the purchaser in favor of the shipbuilder for 50% of the purchase price where the remaining half of the cost has been provided for.

ADDRESS OF RETIRING PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION*

BY CARLETON E. DAVIS

Chief of the Bureau of Water, Philadelphia

THE widest opportunity for this association, I feel, lies in a change in the relationship between the sections and the central organization. The sections must be developed, those already in existence must be strengthened, new sections must be created, all with a view of a final amalgamation in one central organization of the entire water works interests of the country. This process, carried to a logical end, will not destroy our existing organization, but, perhaps, change its character, opening up to it a much wider field of usefulness along somewhat different lines.

The American Water Works Association, when it adopted its name, expressed the intention to serve as this central body. The question before us to-day is whether we propose to grasp the opportunity to act or whether we shall let the opportunity pass us by. Acceptance of the present as we find it and committing the future to our successors is the easiest course. I believe our association will elect to follow the more difficult but more fruitful path.

The majority of our members are restrained in their activities by regulations imposed upon them by public service bodies, or by the restrictions of legislative enactments, or by the limitations of city laws and ordinances. Many of these restraints are irksome, and are not accepted calmly or without chafing under the restraint. Along the field of organization work we have a relatively free hand to organize and develop. We have an opportunity to demonstrate that the water works engineer and operator is a capable organizer, and, when given the opportunity, can conduct his own affairs with efficiency, and at the same time with due regard for the interests and welfare of the public, with an eye to the future and an alertness for the present. Necessary protests against undue outside restraint will come with much greater force if supported by the weight of a compact, comprehensive, well-organized and conducted association.

Predominant Importance of Water Works

It is stated on good authority that the investment in water works represents the largest total in the entire field of comparable utilities. Water works officials know that their plants, of all utilities, supply one universally indispensable commodity—vital for human existence and basic for all community life. We have common interests, and that we are grasping for methods of expressing this interest by working together for a common end is shown by the number of water



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Retiring President, American Water Works Association

*Abstract of address delivered at the Montreal Convention of the Association, June 21st to 25th, 1920.