

Water Testing Helps City, Rural Dwellers

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On request, water samples are taken from private wells, and location and construction of the wells is studied. This inspection and consulting service is free.

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Any surface water must be considered contaminated.

Have you had your private water supply tested lately? And have you obtained your free copy of the booklet entitled "Safe Water for the Rural Home"?

If not, contact the Health Department.

Department's Laboratory Is Ohio-Approved

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Each piece of equipment has to meet certain standards as to size, efficiency of operation, thermostatic controls, acceptable thermometers, etc.

The technician's methods are evaluated through observation. They include the numerous and intricate steps taken in the preparation of the ingredients and the performance of the technician up until final results are obtained.

Resurveying of laboratories has been found to be necessary. It is done to confirm that the equipment and procedures are in conformance with the "standard methods for the examination of dairy products" as established by the United States Public Health Service.

Sanitation Score

Following are the number of consultations, inspections, and laboratory tests made in 1959 by sanitarians:

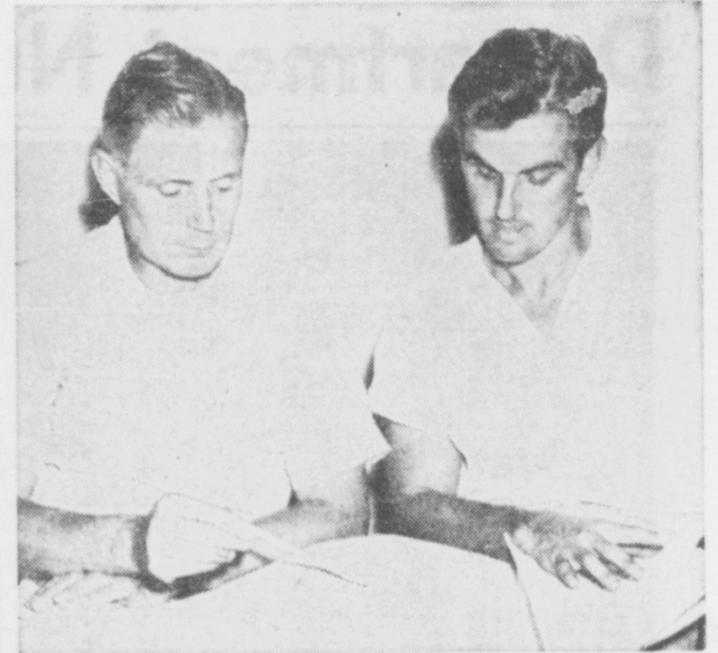
Food—942. Sewage Disposal—864. Water Supplies—123. Water Samples Taken—487. Nuisances—383. Rabies Control—197. Schools—56. Miscellaneous—149. Milk Laboratory Tests—1140.

Permits Issued

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Sanitarians Review Eating Place Plans

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State law requires that plans and specifications be presented in duplicate for review and approval. Basic aim of the law is to safeguard the health and welfare of the eating-out public.

In many instances, the Health Department was able to save the prospective operator time and money. Well-thought-out, detailed plans and specifications are an assist to orderly, less expensive construction. They also assure that food service laws and regulations are met.

Total area to be used for the operation; entrances and exits; location, number and type of plumbing fixtures, including all water supply facilities; plan of lighting, both natural and artificial.

General layout of fixtures and other equipment; building materials to be used; outside openings such as windows, ventilators, louvers; and plans for sewage disposal if a sanitary sewer is not available.

Plans should be drawn to scale, and descriptions should be detailed enough to allow a competent judgment.

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Toilet rooms are clean; hand-washing facilities with hot and cold running water are provided. Drinking fountains are of a sanitary modern type. These facilities prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

Doors are provided with panic hardware to provide for fast and sure exit in case of emergency.

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County Shares Cost Of Rodents' Pillage

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Tuscarawas County shares this cost in proportion to its population.

The Health Department has an interest in the rat problem because the rodents can carry plague, typhus, infectious jaundice, rabies, rat-bite fever, food poisoning, trichinosis, and many other diseases.

Last year, many of the 197 nuisance complaints concerned rat problems. The rats were a direct result of inadequate—or non-existent—refuse collection and disposal programs.

In municipal corporations, the mayor and council are responsible for providing refuse control programs. In unincorporated areas, it is the responsibility of the township trustees; or, the board of county commissioners may establish and maintain the service.

There are two basic principles to follow if a rat control program is to be effective: (1) Eliminate their homes. (2) Eliminate their food supply. All other attempts at control are doomed to failure.

Where there is poor sanitation, there are rats. They will dine on garbage, grain, meat, fish, bread, fruit, vegetables, milk and other dairy products, laundry soap, wax candles, leather, glue, starch, wax-paper, and similar substances.

Rats inside a building are the responsibility of the owner and the tenant. Here's how to get rid of rats.

RULES FOR RAT RIDDANCE

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(2)—Block all exits, openings, and holes with rat-resistant material. (A rat can squeeze through a half-inch hole.) Cover basement windows with screen, sewer openings with covers. All holes where pipes or electrical conduits enter the building should be sealed with rat-proof materials. Foundations must be 36 inches or more below ground level. Build Them Out!

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Many Rural Home Sites Too Small, Sanitarians Warn

Land topography, water table, location, soil condition, area available, and living capacity of home—these are factors that must be "right" for the proper location of a private sewage disposal system, would-be rural home owners discovered in 1959.

Such determinations require the help of persons trained in sewage disposal location, they further learned. As a result, the Health Department sanitarians last year spent a major portion of their time in sewage system consultation.

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A free planning and layout service is maintained by the Department, for which there is no charge. The service often saves much aspirin, money, and trouble for home-owners-to-be.

It also averts future public health problems—which is the real objective underlying the laws and regulations governing sewage disposal systems. Typhoid fever, dysentery, and various types of diarrhea can be transmitted through sewage contamination.

Perhaps the most serious problem encountered by the sanitarians is the small size of most of today's rural building sites. Only a disposal system of a bare minimum size can be installed on the land provided.

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Many building sites are selected without any thought to soil structure or texture. Some soils allow for easy and successful installation and operation of disposal devices. Other soils are practically worthless for disposal purposes.

Topography of the property plays a very important part in constructing the disposal system. Even though the property may contain acres, they may be worthless, so far as sewage disposal is concerned, if located at a higher elevation than the home.

Sewage just won't run uphill.

To many persons building homes, the installation of sewage disposal devices is an afterthought. In planning they consider only the home and its appearance. The disposal

devices must be squeezed into what remains of the property.

In selecting and developing a building site, be guided by these rules and words of advice.

(1)—Check with your Health Department when considering rural building. Sanitarians employed there can be very helpful in determining your disposal needs and the best method of providing for them.

(2)—Don't be fooled by cheap prices on small lots. This may turn out to be the most expensive purchase you can make.

(3)—Be sure the lot is more than large enough to contain the type of disposal system best suited to it. Have enough room to construct, at some future date, at least one completely new system.

(4)—Check the soil structure of the property. Gravel and sand is the best suited for sewage disposal purposes.

(5)—Before construction is started, carefully plan for the home and all of its necessary utilities as one coordinated unit. Locate the home on the property in a position which will retain the most possible area for present and future disposal needs. Remember that driveways and walkways may break up the disposal area into small parcels, which makes them practically worthless for disposal purposes.

(6)—Locate the water well the greatest distance possible (at least 50 feet) from the area where the disposal devices are to be installed.

(7)—Finally, remember that the investment in a home may represent your life savings. If a properly operating disposal system cannot be maintained, the home may become practically worthless and result in a serious economic loss to you.

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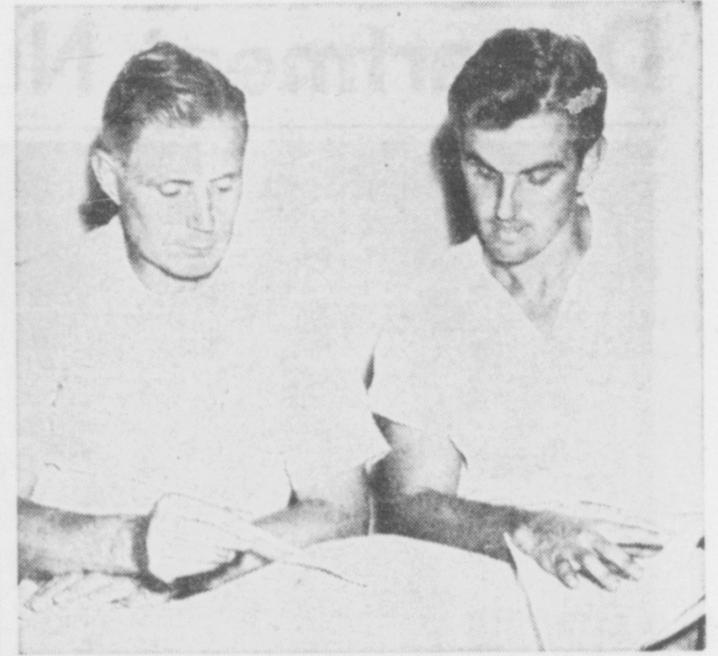
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Final inspection and approval of

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EDITORIALS

Unfancy Eating Places

Sanitarians responsible for inspection of the county's food service operations are finding a big gain in the general sanitation of these places. Methods employed in the handling of food and utensils have improved. Better maintenance and cleaning methods are being employed. Structures and equipment have been improved.

Many of the food service establishments in the county are not, and never will be, fancy showplaces or famous for fine foods. In fact, they are not primarily interested in the serving of food. They are taverns or drinking establishments which maintain a simple food service only because they are required to do so by Ohio laws governing drinking establishments. Regardless of their interests, these places must, and generally do, strive to maintain themselves in a manner which will meet with the food service laws and regulations.

The County Health Department licensed a total of 264 food service operations in 1959. Health Department personnel made 335 inspections of these establishments.

The general overall condition of the establishments has reached the point where a greater amount of pressure will be placed on those few operators who have failed to improve and maintain their places in a satisfactory manner. Failure on their part to make necessary improvements within a given time will result in their food service licenses being revoked.

Private Vs. Public Sewerage

"I wish our village had a sanitary sewer system."

This statement was recently made by a resident of one of our Tuscarawas County villages. The need for such a utility was emphasized in the mind of this person by the fact that she found it necessary to spend \$400 to install a new private disposal system to serve her home.

Ten villages in the county have not provided this most necessary facility for their residents. As a result, this same experience is repeated many times each year.

The need for a sanitary sewerage system in every community is a well-established fact. It is a must in maintaining a high degree of public health protection. It is necessary for the prevention of public health nuisance conditions. It is of vital importance if the community is to enjoy a prosperous, healthy economic growth and development.

While we recognize the need for sewerage systems, the seemingly-high initial cost of the necessary facilities has prevented their installation. But if we honestly consider the total cost picture of private sewage treatment and disposal as opposed to municipal collection, treatment and disposal, the initial cost figure may not represent the stumbling block it appears to be.

Today's cost of a disposal system to serve a private home ranges from \$300 to \$1,200. The cost of a treatment system to serve a business place, a factory, or a school can far exceed these figures.

Most established homes and businesses in our villages do have some type of disposal system. Our records indicate that many of these are inadequate and in need of attention or replacement. The records further indicate there is a constant breakdown and rebuilding of these devices in most villages. In many older homes it is found such devices have been reconstructed or relocated three, four or five times. Likewise, every village has had some degree of new building, within its corporate limits, which requires installation of disposal systems.

If we consider the cost of these devices constructed and to be constructed—and then ultimately reconstructed—we find the money spent by the various individuals, if placed in one common fund, would have more than paid for a municipal system. Add to this the knowledge that at some not-too-far-distant date a municipal system will become an absolute necessity. At that time all private devices must be abandoned. All money previously spent on private devices will then become money thrown down a sewer, an absolute waste.

Federal funds are available to aid communities in drawing up their preliminary plans and cost estimates of a municipal system. Up to one-third of the cost of a municipal sewage treatment plant can be secured as an outright grant from the Federal Government. These are our tax dollars being returned to us. Let's accept them and use them to our mutual benefit. If we don't, some other community will.

1959 Financial Report

RECEIPTS

Unencumbered Balance, December 31, 1958		\$11,211.91
Delayed October 1959 Settlement	\$ 7,518.20	
Township and Village Taxes	11,750.00	
Dover City Taxes	3,288.29	
Uhrichsville City Taxes	1,097.92	
State Subsidy	4,800.00	
Federal Funds	4,850.00	
Food Service License Fees	3,823.00	
Other Income	8,266.32	
.3 Mill Levy	41,750.45	
	\$87,144.78	
Total Income	\$87,144.78	\$87,144.78
Total Funds		\$98,356.09

EXPENDITURES

Salaries	\$67,223.89	
Travel Expenses	5,450.85	
Other Expenses	15,458.42	
	\$88,133.16	
Total Expenditures	\$88,133.16	\$88,133.16
	\$10,222.93	
Withheld Employee Deductions	102.19	
Unencumbered Balance, December 31, 1959		\$10,325.12



... He believes in signs.

Rabies Is Believed In County Wildlife

Ohio's laboratory-confirmed cases of rabies in wildlife mounted during the latter part of 1959. When this occurs the transition of rabies to the domestic animal is certain.

New Machines Aid Efficiency, Storage Space

In order to most efficiently store vital records, the Board of Health recently purchased a microfilm camera and a reader printer.

Purchase of the devices was made necessary by the growing need for cabinet and storage space at the Health Department. It is the Department's responsibility to record all births and deaths occurring in Tuscarawas County and to compile general health statistics.

The camera, capable of filming 150 paper feet per minute, is being used to film copies of original records received. At the same time, an index card is made of the record and filed. This assures speed in locating the records.

Purpose of the reader printer is to produce facsimiles of birth and death records needed for legal reasons. The operator simply locates the document to be reproduced on the bright life-sized reader, and within eight seconds a sharp, clear copy is produced.

As time permits, a program for converting all past records to "similar form" is being carried out. When the program is complete, all of the old bulky records will be destroyed, thus freeing wall and storage space for more productive use.

By using these new devices, vital records can now be handled with ease and efficiency. The system is sufficiently flexible and will serve as a standard for many years to come.

A total of 169 animal-bite investigations were made in 1959 by County Health Department sanitarians. Fortunately none of these was confirmed as rabies.

Five persons did find it necessary to take anti-rabies treatment. These were cases in which the biting animals could not be identified or located for observation.

While we had no reported rabies cases, counties immediately adjoining ours did. Under these circumstances, we can be certain we do have an undetected infection in wild animals.

With a known wildlife infection existing, it is necessary that every resident redouble his guard. Report any known animal bites. Have all dogs vaccinated against rabies. Have a veterinarian check sick animals; don't try to treat them yourself.

Responsible officials should consider the possibility of establishing compulsory dog immunization legislation. This is the greatest human protective measure possible.

Persons living in rural areas should be constantly alert for signs of rabies. It is in these areas that the greatest danger exists, since domestic animals are there constantly subjected to infection by wildlife.

The common bat has recently been recognized as a carrier in the transmission of rabies. Several human deaths have occurred in the United States from bat bites. A number of laboratory-confirmed cases of bat rabies have been found in Ohio.

Bats represent a constant threat to humans because of their habit of harboring in and about homes. Stay away from bats, especially any sick ones you may find. The present knowledge of bat rabies in-

Advisory Council Picks Board, Assures Equal Representation

Presidents of each township's board of trustees and mayors of municipalities make up the District Advisory Council. The Council chooses the members of the Board of Health, the policy-making body which directs the health efforts of the Tuscarawas County Health Department.

Chairman of the District Advisory Council is Walter H. Lahmers. Clifford C. Froelich is secretary.

Presidents of the township Boards of Trustees for 1959 - 1960 are: Auburn—R. J. Dummermuth, Bucks—Victor W. Regula, Clay—H.

Dale Blind, Dover—Dale W. Kreiter, Fairfield—S. G. Seward, Franklin—Adolph Gasser, Goshen—Oscar Smith, Jefferson—Wilbert Ott, Lawrence—Clifford R. Lundenberger, Mill—Bill McCollam, Oxford—Wayne Dorsey, Perry—Ernest A. Crossan, Rush—C. Alvin Sproul, Salem—Walter H. Lahmers, Sandy—F. E. Barkheimer, Sugarcreek—Emanuel Miller, Union—William S. Aubiel, Warren—C. H. Hollingbaugh, Warwick—Lacy W. Donehue, Washington—J. H. Quillen, Wayne—William S. Fisher, York—Eugene Deardorff. Mayors on the Council are: Do-

The Board Of Health Members

CHAIRMAN:
Ross M. Garber
Bollivar, 1957-1963

VICE CHAIRMAN:
George Fillman
Port Washington, 1958-1962

MEMBERS:
R. E. Wolf, M.D.
Uhrichsville, 1955-1960

W. R. Patterson
Fresno, 1956-1961

B. R. Lewis, D.D.S.
Dover, 1959-1964

Your Staff

CHARLES C. NEWELL, M. D.
Health Commissioner
CAROLYN ARNOLD
Staff Nurse (Resigned 4-13-59)
MARLENE GORDON
Staff Nurse (Resigned 10-21-59)
MARY LOU GRIMM
Staff Nurse
VIOLET JENTES
Staff Nurse
ELIZABETH ORLOWSKI
Staff Nurse
FLORENCE PECK
Staff Nurse
MARY FAY POLEN
Staff Nurse (Resigned 7-7-59)
VERA O'BRIEN
Staff Nurse
FLORENCE REYNOLDS
Staff Nurse
ELLA MAE RIGGLE
Sr. Nurse
DOROTHY SPRING
Staff Nurse
NORMAN MILLER
Sanitarian
FRANK BEDEY
Sanitarian
LESLIE W. BERG
Sanitarian
RICHARD K. STOLZ
Sanitarian
VIVIAN J. STEWART
Registrar, Vital Statistics
SHIRLEY ARNOLD
Clerk - Steno
JEANNETTE B. SEABROOK
Clerk - Steno

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"The Health Record" is published as the annual report of the Tuscarawas County Health Department. If you wish extra copies, please contact Tuscarawas County General Health District, 659 Boulevard, Dover, O.

Two Honored

Two members of the Health Department were honored at the annual meeting of the Ohio Public Health Association in Columbus on May 19, 1959.

Mrs. Ella Mae Riggle and Norman Miller received 10-year Certificates of Merit Award. The award is given for continuous work in public health rendered to the citizens of Ohio.

indicates that every bat bite should be considered as a possible exposure to rabies and preventive treatment should be given.

ver—Clifford C. Froelich, Uhrichsville—Jess Dempster, Baltic—Walter H. Luke, Barnhill—Ernest Wheatley, Bollivar—Carl King, Dennison—George Gram, Gnadenhutten—Paul W. Schreiner, Midvale—Daniel Fantine, Mineral City—Alvin McClelland, Newcomertown—James Tufford, Parral—Harold Arnold, Port Washington—Elwood F. Couts, Roswell—Frank Cox, Shanesville—Milan Alpeter, Stone Creek—E. F. Arbogast, Strasburg—John Studer, Sugarcreek—John E. Harmon, Tuscarawas—Charles F. Donehue, Zoar—Lawrence Mar-