

Use Of Water In U. S. Causing Problem; Use Is Growing Faster Than Population

Water use in the United States is increasing faster than population, and is already straining the readily-obtainable sources in certain parts of the country. That is why there is a growing interest in water conservation and the problems of waste and pollution, and why a national solution is being sought to meet the needs of our growing economy.

Looked at from the point of view of the economy as a whole, water is more than something which flows out of the tap, shower, or lawn sprinkler, or tinkles as ice in a glass. True, domestic use is very large, estimated to run over 17 billion gallons a day, or more than 100 gallons a day for every man, woman and child in the population.

Size of Demand

But this is a comparative drop in the bucket to the over-all demands on the American water resources. Industrial use of water, in cooling processes and in many other applications, is nearly five times as great as the total used by all U. S. homes combined. The amounts required for irrigation of farm lands are of the same magnitude as industrial use. And about six times as much water as all of the other uses put together are required to operate the hydroelectric plants which supply one-quarter of the country's electrical energy.

Thus water goes beyond its role as essential to the basic life process. It is equally indispensable to our whole industrial and production mechanism, and therefore, to the maintenance and advancement of our standard of living. That is why the question of the adequacy of water supplies in relation to a growing population and expanding economy is of the utmost natural consequence.

The total annual use of water is estimated by the U. S. Geological Survey at more than one and one-quarter trillion gallons a day. Such a figure in itself would indicate investments of tremendous magnitude, and the estimates are that the total U. S. investment in all types of water facilities is in the neighborhood of \$40 billions. Many billions more will have to be invested in the future to keep pace with the needs of the people and of industry.

Part Played by Savings

The people's savings in life insurance and other thrift institutions have played an important part by supplying water works, industry and public utilities with funds for the construction of water facilities.

The total U. S. water bill is currently estimated at around \$3 billions a year. This makes it a big item in the over-all; but nonetheless the cost of water is hardly discernible in the average family budget, for the bulk of the water that goes into domestic use doesn't cost over a nickel a ton (a ton of water equals about 250 gallons). More than two-thirds of the entire annual water bill is borne by industry.

The size of some of these industrial

uses is an eye-opener in indicating the basic importance of water to production. A gallon of industrial alcohol of 100 proof, for example, can be made with the use of only 120 gallons of water. On the other hand, each of the more than five million automobiles turned out this year required 15,000 gallons of water. A ton of steel requires an average of 65,000 gallons of water in its manufacture. And a ton of hydrogen or synthetic rubber may require more than 600,000 gallons of water in their production. All in all, industrial use of water is estimated at close to 77 billion gallons a day.

Water is Big Business

Thus, supplying the water needs of the country is a big business, and this manifests itself in jobs and production as well as in other statistics relating to its use. For example, water works alone employ about 100,000 persons. Then, too, there are scores of companies that make pipes, valves, meters, pumps, and treating and other equipment for water-using industries, exclusive of the turbines and other machinery for the hydroelectric plants.

Over-all water use is now several times what it was at the turn of the century. Various estimates run from four to six times as great, whereas the population has little more than doubled in the period. By 1975 the consumption of water is expected to nearly double again, a rate of gain close to three times as great as the expected population increase between now and 1975.

Delaware Leads States In Per Capita Income

Delaware led all the States in per capita individual income in 1953 for the second time in the post-World War II period, according to the U. S. Department of Commerce. It also was first in 1951, and has had a consistently high ranking in other years.

Delaware's per capita income last year topped \$2,300, and was over a third more than the national average of \$1,709 for the year. Connecticut moved up to second place after being fourth in 1952, and Nevada and New York followed in that order. In all, 17 States and the District of Columbia exceeded the national figure for per capita individual income payments in 1953.

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Low Vitality Chickens Cause Double Trouble

A single contagious disease in a chicken is a serious situation to the poultryman, but the poultryman does not know what real trouble is until two or more diseases crop up in the same bird at the same time.

Is this problem likely to occur? R. S. Dearstyne, head of the poultry science department at State College, says it must be expected under the present-day intensity of poultry work.

A study of this question has just been completed by the State College poultry science department. Three ages considered were: young birds from time of hatch through 10 weeks of age; from 11 weeks to six months of age; and over six months of age.

In the first group there were 1,070 instances showing a single contagious disease and 150 showing two or more diseases in the same individual. The second group showed 246 birds with one disease compared to 15 with two

or more. In the adult size, there were 421 chickens with a single disease and 25 with two or more.

This situation creates problem to the laboratory diagnostician in developing suggestions for controlling an outbreak. In some cases the treatment of the two or more diseases might be similar while in others it might be entirely different.

Dearstyne emphasizes that greater stress should be placed on management, so that multiple diseases chicks are a rarity. "Chicks of high quality usually are highly-resistant to disease," he says.

Another Cancer Clinic In E. City On Friday

Another session of the Northeastern Cancer Clinic will be held Friday, November 5, at the Health Center in Elizabeth City, beginning at 1 o'clock. A free chest X-ray will be given to one disease compared to 15 with two anyone wishing it along with the examination of the five areas of the

body where cancer is most easily found and cured. There are no limitations at the Center as to sex, race, physical or economical status. However, there are age requirements. Women should be 35 or more, men should be 40 or over unless referred by a doctor, or unless one of the "Seven Danger Signals" or "Symptoms" are present.

An appointment is not necessary but, due to limited facilities, it is suggested that anyone who wishes to be assured of an examination should write the Cancer Center, Elizabeth City, for a priority. Examinees are asked to bring a robe or housecoat.

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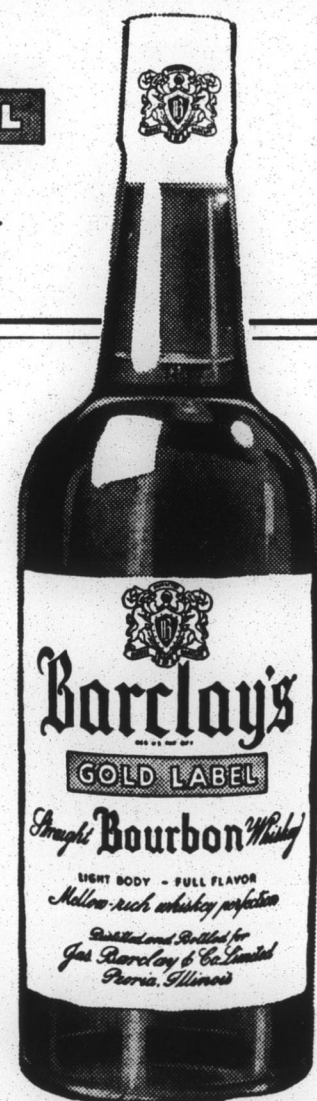
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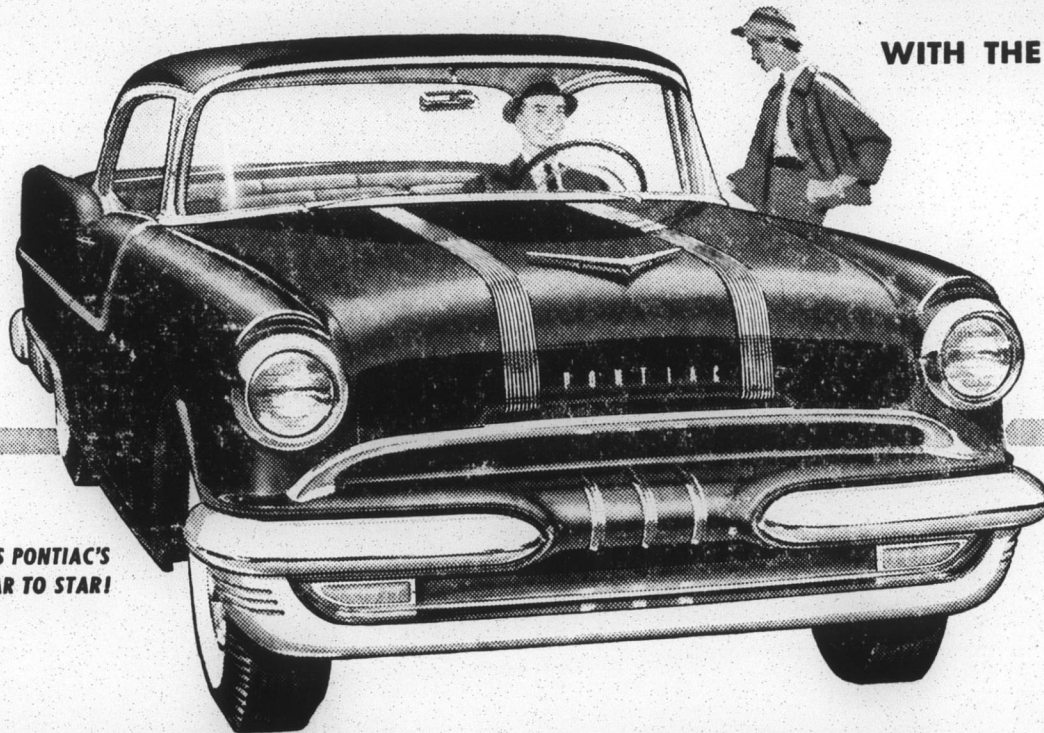
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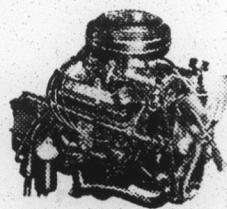
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