

# The Clarifier

(Published Bi-monthly by the Conference of Wisconsin Sewerage Works Operators)

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This issue of the newsletter was held up for a couple of weeks so that we could publish all the details of the Fall meeting at Eau Claire on November 5th.

The meeting promises to be a fine one -- with a varied and interesting program. (See reverse side for the program.) All operators are invited -- whether or not they are Conference members. Wives are invited also and a wonderful program has been planned for them.

A reservation card is enclosed and we ask that you mail it not later than October 20th so that our hosts will know how many to expect. The fellows in Eau Claire are working hard to see that we have an enjoyable time, so let's get up there -- all of us -- for the meeting. Fill in the card and get it in the mail whether or not you plan to attend.

Let's go -- you area chairmen! We need material for this newsletter. Anything will do -- births, weddings, news about your operations. Remember, we all are interested in reading about what is going on in our business.

Received an interest letter from Wolkowski at Baraboo. He just completed cleaning his digester after 18 years of service. Space will not permit a detailed account of this operation, but we can say that the Baraboo crew did a very workmanlike job. Any operator, who is faced with this difficult and nasty chore, would do well to talk to Wolkowski and find out how he emptied this digester and got it back into service with the least amount of trouble.

We are just about ready to go on the voluntary certification of operators. All members of the board have accepted their appointments and we hear they will meet soon.

Did you read Lloyd Owens' fine article on Work Assignments in the Sewage Works Journal? Congratulations, Lloyd, for a well-written and informative paper.

Have you joined the Conference? We need you -- you need us.

Fond du Lac has recently installed a 100KW generator powered with sludge gas. Bogenhagen reports daily gas production figures up around 80,000 cu. ft. This is fantastic -- population around 30,000.

Do you still call yours a "disposal" plant? We think "treatment" is a better and more accurate word. Remember that little building over the hole in the back yard? That's a disposal plant. Let's use the right word to describe what we do.

Rimmele (Janesville) reported a sour digester with a pH of 5.5. We hope Otto has it back in normal operation by now.

Enclosed with this newsletter is an open letter to your municipal administrator. It is designed to show him how you, your work, and your community will benefit from Conference membership and attendance at meetings of operators. If your municipal officials have not been sold on your association with other men in your field, we suggest you take the letter to them -- ask them to read it -- perhaps it will help.

Ralph (Antigo) Hansen is having trouble drying sludge. The thought is that greases and fats from milk wastes slow down water separation and retard drainage. Ralph is trying out the addition of alum and will report later on its effectiveness.

Over

1955 FALL CONFERENCE

Conference of Wisconsin Sewerage Works Operators  
Hotel Eau Claire, Wisconsin

Saturday, November 5, 1955

PROGRAM

Morning Session — President, C. W. Bogenhagen, President

- 9:30 to 10:45 Registration
- 10:45 to 11:00 Address of Welcome - Hon. David Rowlands, City Manager  
Response - President Bogenhagen
- 11:00 to 11:20 Business meeting
- 11:20 to 12:00 Responsibility of the Municipality and Industry in Joint  
Treatment of Waste - Earl Probst, Mishicot, Wisconsin

Afternoon Session

- 12:00 to 1:30 Luncheon (with the Ladies)  
Film - Sewers, Guardian of Community Health
- 1:30 to 3:30 Panel Discussions
- a) Grounds and Plant Maintenance - Leland Shaw, Baraboo
  - b) Public Relations - Frank I. Vilen, Kenosha
  - c) Winter Operation - Ralph Hansen, Antigo
- 3:30 to 5:00 Inspection Tour of Eau Claire Plant  
led by Lloyd Owens, Superintendent

ADJOURNMENT

- Ladies Program
- |               |                             |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 9:30 to 11:45 | Shopping                    |
| 12:00 to 1:30 | Luncheon and Film           |
| 1:30 to 3:30  | Tour of City and Industries |
| 3:30 to 5:30  | Tour of Plant               |

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IF YOU PLAN TO STAY OVERNIGHT, PLEASE MAKE YOUR OWN HOTEL OR MOTEL RESERVATIONS  
SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION CARD EARLY! WE HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU IN EAU CLAIRE ON  
NOVEMBER 5th .....

C. BOGENHAGEN  
Fond Du Lac  
President

G. BERNAUER  
Madison  
1st Vice-President

F. VILEN  
Kenosha  
2nd Vice-President

D. DUTCHER  
Tomah  
Past President

# Conference of Wisconsin Sewerage Works Operators

C. KELLEY, Secretary-Treasurer—Elkhorn

September 26, 1955

TO THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:

CLARIFIER

R. Frazier, Oshkosh

NEWS LETTER

F. Vilen, Kenosha

AREA CHAIRMEN

Area No. 1

O. Rimmele, Janesville  
D. Hanley, Waukesha

Area No. 2

M. Bedker, Beaver Dam

Area No. 3

J. Richgruber, Sparta

Area No. 4

M. Westfall, Sturgeon Bay  
L. Schafer, New London

Area No. 5

R. Hansen, Antigo  
M. Baldwin, Stevens Point

Area No. 6

L. Owens, Eau Claire  
C. Robertson, Luck

Dear Sir:

As the administrative officer of your community, you are naturally interested in the economical and efficient operation of your services and utilities. One of the most important of these to the health and welfare of your citizens is the Sewage Treatment Plant. The plant represents a considerable investment of public funds and we know you wish to get the maximum return for your money and benefit from such savings as result from good operation practices.

How well do you know your plant? Are your operators doing the best possible job? Are you giving them an opportunity to learn more about plant operation - to keep abreast of latest information - to participate in discussions of mutual problems with other men in the field?

It is a truism in the sewage treatment business that the problems and difficulties encountered are much the same whether the plan is large or small. We believe your plant operator needs an occasional contact with men doing like work to help him with his operation problems, to keep him informed about new developments, to convey

to him ideas resulting in efficiency and economy, and, just as important, to give him the inspiration to do a good job which comes from association with men who have common interests.

The Conference of Wisconsin Sewerage Works Operators stand ready to help your operator do a better job for your community. Conference membership is composed of men who operate plants like yours. Some of them are big plants and some are small, but the interests of these men are mutual. Meetings are held twice each year at which all phases of plant operation are discussed. The purpose of the Conference is to provide better sewage treatment in Wisconsin through education and the exchange of information.

Conference dues are nominal at \$1.50 per year payable in two-year installments. A bi-monthly newsletter is published. The Conference has the whole-hearted support of the State Board of Health and the Engineering Department of the University of Wisconsin.

We urge you to enroll your plant operator as a member of the Conference. We suggest that your council or board pay the operator's dues and appropriate monies to make it possible for him to attend Conference meetings. We feel sure that the benefits you and your community will receive will more than offset the small cost.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) C. W. Bogenhagen  
President

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

LEGISLATIVE  
G. Bernauer  
Madison

PUBLICITY  
F. Clapper  
Delavan

RESOLUTIONS  
L. Manteufel  
Wausau

GADGET  
J. Richgruber  
Sparta

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS  
M. Westfall  
Sturgeon Bay