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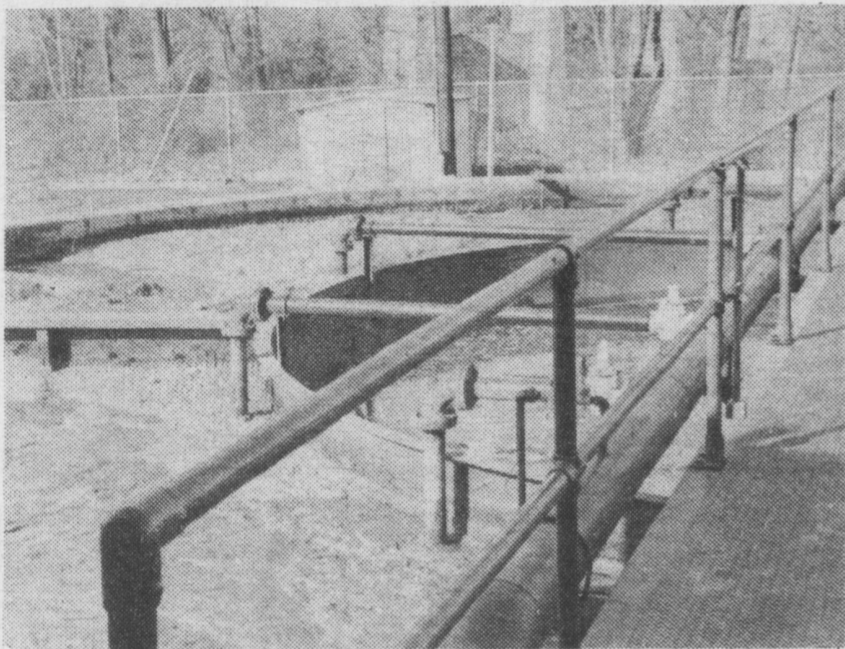
# SUSQUEHANNA BULLETIN

Susquehanna Times & The Mount Joy Bulletin  
MARIETTA & MOUNT JOY, PA.

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Ten Cents

## Bacteria at work for Marietta - E. Donegal



Bacteria at work on churning sewage

It's not a sewage plant; it's a water pollution control plant; it takes the raw sewage from the borough of Marietta and from East Donegal Township, takes the pollutants out of it - and turns out pure water which then flows into the Susquehanna River.

### Working all the time

It's something we just take for granted, never giving it a thought. If something would go wrong with this plant on the eastern edge of Marietta, we'd all be screaming, but as long as it is working, we don't even know where it's located.

It is working 'round the clock. A continuous graph shows the hundreds of thousands of gallons of raw sewage pouring into the plant at all hours of the day. You can see on the graph when people around here get up

and go to bed, when the graph peaks, and when they are sleeping in the dark morning hours, when the graph shows a low flat valley.

### Quadrillions of bacteria

All day and all night the plant is working, churning and pumping air into the sewage so that billions, trillions and quadrillions of bacteria will have oxygen they need to break down the solids in the sewage. Over and over again the solutions are re-cycled, and the bacteria go to work on them.

Finally, in a special compartment, the bacteria cannibalistically consume themselves.

Pure water is chlorinated before being released to the river.

Solids that the bacteria couldn't dispose of are

spread on drying beds, to be hauled away eventually as useful fertilizer.

The man with major responsibility for keeping this most necessary plant work-at all times is John L. Parker, Jr., superintendent, also president of the borough Council and constable of Marietta.

### Inter-municipal cooperation

John works under the supervision of the Donegal Sewer Authority; Chairman, Lew Sperla; Vice-Chairman, Albert Huck; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Michael Gratch; Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, Ralph Miller.

The Joint Sewer Authority is a prime example of inter-municipal cooperation within our area, to provide essential service to the entire community across political boundaries.

What would happen if this essential service would stop functioning.

### Flood of '72.

Well, one time it did stop functioning - during the famous Agnes Flood of '72.

While the Agnes rains were still falling hard at 2 a.m. Thursday morning, John Parker got a telephone call from Police Chief Jim Millar informing him that water was seeping out of the manholes on Front Street.

John got out of bed, got dressed, and went out to investigate the sewers.

He didn't know it then, but he was not going to return to his bed for a week, and he was not going to get any sleep for six days.

On Friday afternoon he waded into the plant in water up to his knees. After working at the plant and checking conditions for a couple hours, the water rising all the time, he threw the main switch on the plant, stopping all operations.

When he waded out the water was over his waist.

Next day he came in by boat with some help, and docked his boat at the cement platform around the control room. In two days he and his helpers removed the heavy motors that run the pumps and took them into Lancaster to be dried

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## Carmany bridge shows East Donegal economy

In its last few issues, the Susquehanna Bulletin has been running articles on various local public officials, getting their views on community problems and opportunities.

The Bulletin has talked to both Lloyd Fuhrman and Jim Johnstin, supervisors of East Donegal Township (we haven't gotten around yet to Abe Groff, the other supervisor).

Both Fuhrman and Johnstin were reluctant to have personal articles written about themselves, and as they said, "get their pictures in the paper."

So, the Bulletin decided to write a little about the work of these two men, instead of about themselves.

As an example of their work we chose the bridge on Carmany Road over the eastern tributary of Donegal Creek.

This is a bridge that Lloyd and Jim themselves erected some seven or eight years ago with the help of one other man. They had received a bid for the bridge of \$31,000 from an outside contractor.

Lloyd and Jim decided that was too much. They went to work on the bridge themselves. They bought steel beams and pipes, etc. for their bridge at junkyards. They mixed the concrete themselves.

The entire cost of the bridge and of the mile and a half stretch of road was less

than the \$31,000 the contractor had wanted for the bridge alone.

Carmany Road bridge is typical of the economizing and saving the taxpayer's dollars that Lloyd Fuhrman and Jim Johnstin have strived for. A great many of

the road-building jobs that used to be farmed out at high prices to outside contractors, are now being carried out directly by the township government, with tremendous savings in cost, and with the knowledge that a job has been done right.

## Vera Newcomer's art on display at Norlanco

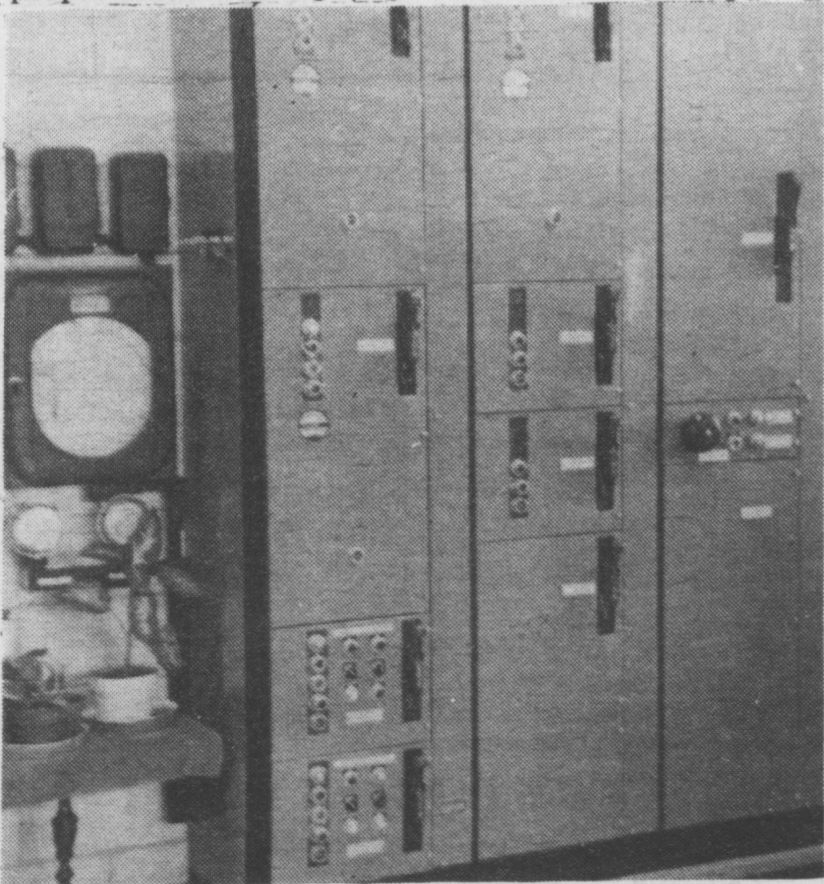
The paintings of Mrs. Vera Newcomer of Mount Joy, are being displayed for the next several weeks at Norlanco Family Health Center off Route 230 between Mount Joy and Elizabethtown.

Also on display are paintings of the late Harry M. Book, which are owned by Mrs. Newcomer.

Mrs. Newcomer, the widow of the late Dr. J. N.

Newcomer of Mount Joy, is a registered nurse who took up painting as a hobby after she had been married and had a son, Lee. Lee, who teaches industrial arts at Lower Merion Junior High School in Ardmore and who has taught at the University of Maryland, is her "most severe critic," Mrs. Newcomer says.

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The control panel



Vera Newcomer at work