

Concerning this point of class
usage. - She was on 5
on 10th that she is still experiencing
an intermittent cloudy water
condition - this is after the
heavy usage. - She saw Mr. Flegg
and he said there was a "musty"
area in the driving of the well and
indicated this could be the cause
of the problem of the wells sides
slumping - He suggested a smaller
casing be placed in the well.

4 Upper Dublin Homes Waterless For 118 Days as Lawyers Debate

By PETER H. BISHOP
Of The Bulletin Staff

"It's amazing," said Mrs. Wilbert Harrison, of 634 Bellaire av., Upper Dublin Township, "how you adjust to things. I mean you don't like it but you try to adjust."

What Mrs. Harrison, her husband and 11-year-old daughter have been adjusting to for the last four months is life without running water.

Their well water, first flowing in the fall of 1954, was cut away for installation of a sewer line to a new Upper Dublin elementary school.

Since then, a 100-foot water main has trickled from the top in the 118-year-old, two-story frame house about a half-mile from the Highland av. exit of the Route 309 Expressway.

Bottled Water

Each weekday afternoon, Upper Dublin Township employee delivers four gallons of bottled water to the Harrison back door. And every Monday, an Internal Revenue worker in Philadelphia drops two big plastic bags into his station wagon and drives to the home of a "very dear friend" in Penllyn to fill up the jugs.

The Harrisons use the water for drinking and cooking, and the Penllyn water for bathing and sanitary facilities.

In this way, they have survived 118 waterless days.

Three neighboring families have been without water for as long or longer. Wells for the other houses in the section are contaminated. In about a dozen additional cases, wells that apparently were polluted by the blasting last fall are "non-viable."

3-Month Delay Possible

While Upper Dublin officials are now actively seeking a solution to the problem—very broadly so, in the residents' view—the chances are that water may not run into the nine houses for another one or two months, at least.

Although Upper Dublin's population was 88 percent white in the 1960 census and all of its wards are white, the section is dry and contaminated. It is 100 percent black. This has caused bad feeling, not only among the Negro families but also among the white families.

Upper Dublin, a green suburb between Abington and Ambler, has seen vast growth in the last few years. The township has 1,000 Negro families in it, many of them were brought here by rubber workers and professionals.

Each House Has Own Well

The Harrisons share the well on Highland and Bellaire. They are the only family that has had a large lot. They have one of four \$15,000 lots of \$25,000. They have a well and each

has its own well. The Harrisons' well is the only one of the remainder of the township to be owned by the Ambler Water Co.

One reason why relief has been so slow in coming to the waterless families is that it has been difficult to fix responsibility for the problem.

Last fall work was proceeding along Highland av. on a big sewer line to the Fort Washington elementary school, which is scheduled to open in September at Fort Washington and Highland ave.

Severely Contract

The Upper Dublin School Board had asked for the sewers and the Upper Dublin Sewer Authority, created by the state on request of the township, had contracted for its construction. The contract went to Slaw-Landis Paving Co., Inc., of Norristown.

In mid-October, Slaw-Landis started blasting at Highland and Bellaire ave., reportedly within 200 yards of all the houses that later reported damage.

A Slaw-Landis official said that before the blasting began the company sent a man around to notify residents. Mrs. Harrison said nobody warned her.

Mrs. Gladys C. Gould, acting president of the Bellaire-Highland av. Neighborhood Association, said she received word that "blasting was planned but that it wouldn't start for more than a month."

Pictures Fall Off Walls

"The very next week," she



CANNISTER OF WATER is carried to her Upper Dublin Township home by Mrs. Wilbert Harrison. There has been no running water in her house since blasting for a sewer-line installation last Nov. 7.

said, "there was this tremendous explosion. Pictures fell off our walls."

Other residents complained of cracked walls, weakened foundations and damaged fireplaces. "Then I turned on the spigot one day and nothing came out,"

she said. "That's how it's been ever since."

Immediately after the blasting experiences. Other families reported similar experiences. "Then I turned on the spigot one day and nothing came out,"

CONTINUED FROM
3/11/49 ARTICLE

Lawyer Hired
They hired a lawyer, Francis Reuchnik, to handle their case. Reuchnik retained an engineer who said the blasting caused the dry and contaminated wells.

Water

Continued From First Page

Corey, chairman of the health committee, said no plans for the water line will be completed until full approval is gotten from the residents.

Corey said the water company has agreed to pay 25 percent of the cost and the residents will be expected to make up the balance — it hasn't been decided how much — of the remaining 75 percent.

To lessen the cost, Corey said, efforts will be made to synchronize the water line laying with sewer excavations going on in the area.

Calls Township Responsible

Mrs. Gladys Gould, of 829 Bellaire av., one of the four homes totally without water, said the township is responsible for the residents' plight.

"You awarded the sewer contract," she said. "Don't you feel you owe us something? We had plenty of water. Then, the blasting started and we had none."

Corey said he felt certain an equitable arrangement could be worked out.

"We have found a way to solve this problem," he said. "We have guaranteed the water company that the township will be responsible for paying for the water line."

Not Sitting on Hands

Thomas P. Glassmeyer, board president, defended the board's handling of the waterless situation.

"We are not sitting on our hands," he said. "No problem has ever received greater attention. We have gotten nothing but bad publicity out of this. Presumably someone here has been at fault. We are investigating this."

"We know you had water before the blasting. But I don't think we will determine who is at fault until a court decides."

Blasting Blamed

The residents contend that the blasting caused the dry and polluted wells.

Slaw-Landis Paving Co., Inc., of Norristown, which did the blasting, doesn't concede that it caused the water problem.

A company official said the water table in the area has been falling for years. He said the wells may have gone dry for that reason alone.

He also noted that the Ambler Water Co. had dug a large well on lower ground near the Bellaire-Highland homes. This large well may have drained off the residents' water, he said.

Upper Dublin Pledges Relief To Four Waterless Families

By JOSEPH J. McMAHON
Of The Bulletin Staff

Relief appears on the way for four Upper Dublin families who have been without water for almost five months.

But the relief—water—is still at least several months away, and it could prove costly to the four families and 17 other families near Highland and Bellaire avs. E. Washington, Montgomery County.

They will be assessed for part of the cost of bringing the water to their area.

Seeks Water Line Bids

The Upper Dublin Township Board of Commissioners announced last night at its monthly meeting that the township is joining with the Ambler Water Co. to draw plans and specifications and to advertise for bids

to install water lines to the waterless homes.

These homes became waterless last October during blasting for installation of a sewer line to a new Upper Dublin elementary school.

Four wells in the area went dry and others became contaminated. The blasting caused damage to some homes.

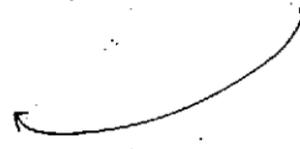
Since then, township employees have been delivering four gallons of bottled water each afternoon to the afflicted homes.

The residents, all Negroes in an almost entirely white township, feel that their problem has been slighted for racial reasons.

Residents' Approval Sought

One of the commissioners at last night's meeting, Samuel C.

Continued on Page 58, Col. 2



An official of the construction firm also noted that the Ambler Water Co. had dug a large deep well on lower ground near the Bellaire-Highland homes. This large well might have drained off the residents' water, he said.

Township officials were uncertain.

Case Not Proved

"Our original supposition," said Richard Brown, the township secretary, "was that blasting caused the loss of water. This hasn't been proven one way or the other."

The result has been an impasse — and no relief for the residents. At first, the township sent around a water truck from which the beleaguered families were able to draw water. With the coming of cold weather, the daily deliveries of free bottled water were begun.

At a meeting last Thursday, township officials announced that the cost of running water lines to the 21 houses with wells would range from \$22,000 to \$30,000 depending on the amount of rock encountered and other problems.

The Ambler Water Co. said it would pay 25 percent of the cost.

Lawyer Files Suit

It was decided to determine the exact cost to the residents. The residents themselves did not commit themselves one way or another. Meanwhile, Reuchnik said he already has filed suit against Slaw-Landis on behalf of the residents and he plans to sue the township.

"The township has been sitting on its rear end," he said.

"They have refused to use the standard means of communication. They're now telling me things I know three and four months ago."

Besides the Harrison's families without water are Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Hill, 347 Highland av.; Mrs. Alice Gould, formerly widow of Bellaire av., and Mrs. Annie Pulk, of Highland av.

On the coffee table in Mrs. Harrison's house yesterday was a copy of "Black Rage," by William H. Grier and Price M. Cobbs. Mrs. Harrison said she got the book because "I'm black and I project myself in all types of reading."

'Two Sets of Rules'

Of the water problem, she said: "This didn't start out as a racial situation. But the same courtesies were not extended to us. This would not have happened in another section. It's through the grace of God that this area hasn't had an epidemic or a serious illness."

She noted that when sewer work was set for the township's Rose Valley section last month it was announced that the township would send individual letters to all residents ten days ahead of time. And the contractor was to leave his card at each house with a stake to be used by the home owner in marking where he wanted his sewer line.

"It appears," said Mrs. Harrison, "that there are two sets of rules, depending on the section."

Tuesday Afternoon. 10 June 1969

Dear Albert & Jean,

We received the copies of the letter you sent Mr. Malcolm to-day. He and another man from the mine are over here now looking where to bring the pipe line. I told them Brainard thought they would bring it across just below our old raspberry patch. Is that what you and Brainard had talked over? I think they will start on it soon, I hope so. ~~The~~ I understood they sent for a water test bottle to-day so we should hear from that soon. We will let you know how things progress.

I don't think Col. Greene has come yet. It doesn't look like he is very worried about his water.

The jeep has a leak in the breaks and Bill & Brainard took it up to Wood's garage last Saturday. Brainard thought if it is ready to-night he would go after it if he can find some one to take turn up after it.

I don't think air mail ~~is~~ goes any faster. I just noticed you mailed that letter Sunday. It has been three days coming.

Brainard thinks your best bet would be to get Bill to get you some toilet chemical. He probably can get it in Bangor or on some of his trips. Brainard thinks they might send it by express to Bangor. I don't know if they could send it by mail or not.

Brainard went up to Nancy White's last night and the reservoir is less than half full. He

quite upset as he is afraid they won't have enough water this summer. He is going to get a diver to go in and see where the leak is and see if he can fix it. John Schuler's family are coming next week. He plans to go up Saturday and take the boxes we have here and take off the shutters.

Mr. Levesque started work yesterday. Mrs. L. - said he has a sore on his foot now where it was hurt.

I went down and fed the chippies. I saw the bird bath was dry so I took some water down and filled it, also watered the window boxes, flowers, vegetable garden and boxes of shrubs. We have been watering the shrubs and garden. Everything looks good.

Drainard has come so I will send him to the post office with my mail. We will keep you folks posted on how things are coming and the water ^{test} report when we hear. We will send the report when we get it and you can make a copy.

Best wishes to all from all of us.

Sincerely,

Marian

Mrs. Levesque said they haven't heard any thing about the wharf. She is anxious to get set up too.

Henry Says:

Sign a release only
if satisfied & the water

& it seems that you
can not ever be satisfied.

Only answer - "you are
obligated to provide satis-
factory water - do it."

— FROM —



CELANESE PLASTICS COMPANY •
A Division of Celanese Corporation

142 PARSONS AVENUE

COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215

Water Appears Plentiful In Northeastern U. S. ^{14 MAR} 69

NEW YORK (AP) — Another summer of plentiful waters appears in store for the Northeast. The great drought of 1961-66 is only a memory.

Reservoir levels are at or near normal and spring runoff from winter snows is expected to be normal.

During the drought, when the reservoirs were nearly dry, the city asked restaurants not to serve water unless the customer asked for it. A casual survey showed that some still don't, but most do.

"We have always served water," said the maitre d' at Le Pavilion. "Except during the drought," he added.

A waitress at a Bickford's on 50th Street said she didn't serve water unless people asked for it.

"When you give people water they don't usually drink it," she explained. "If they ask for water we gladly give it to them."

City water officials reported reservoir storage normal for this time of year—430 billion gallons or 78.5 per cent of capacity. Normal spring runoff was expected.

In New England, water storage ranges from 87 to 150 per cent of average. Major reservoirs are generally lower than a year ago, except in southern Vermont and central New Hampshire.

MAY 26 1964 # 314487
~~NITRATES~~ O
CHLORIDES. 9. HARDNESS 28.

AUG. 14 1968 # 367014
SATISFACTORY (NEW WR11)

DEC 18 1968 # 371345
UNSATIS.
CHLORIDES — 750.

JAN 6 1969 # 371716
SATIS.
CHLORIDES 80.

APR. 11 1969 # 373262
UNSATIS
CHLORIDES 360.
HARDNESS 246.

10-1-68

Al:

I picked these Bulletins off a display in the USDA office in Houlton, Me., on my last trip. I haven't looked them over, but thought by the covers you might find something of interest in them.

We got a letter from the lab I used to work at in Searsport reporting on the sample of H_2O I took from Brainerd's new well.

Here's a verbatim copy:

"

Dear Guy:

We checked your water sample which was brought in by Joe Cuddy, and obtained the following results:

Total Hardness as $CaCO_3$	18 ppm
Total Chlorides as NaCl (Salinity)	46 ppm

The water is relatively soft and low in Salinity. With respect to these tests, it is good

drinking water.
With best regards. "

W. Field Lowell

This lab is now under the W.R. Grace Co.
Agri. Chemicals Div., Searsport, Me.
Thought you'd be interested in this!

We're still boating! - Scout trip a
big success, "Pop's" trip & the society ladies
of Castine + Holebrook Is. - a success! got
our 6V + 12V Generators back in order, Deb's
birthday picnic trip due this Sat.

"Teach" is gradually turning out to be on
top of her new job.

We liked your news paper coverage - Seems
you run in pretty fancy circles down in the city.

How's all the family? The "square back" sounds
great! Hope we'll see you soon! Regards,

Oh Ya - P.S. - Did you, young Wiggins at Ellsworth
American "Game" has a father at "Washington Post" Bill + Reta
Game who is the Wiggins Pres. Johnson appointed to be ambassador to the U.N.

24 January
1969

Dear Brainard,

Several days ~~ago~~ ago we had a long letter from Albert in which he described his recent week in Harborside.

I have just finished reading an interesting and informative book:- "Henry Cross and His Dowsing Rod by Kenneth Roberts (1951). It details the unique ability of Cross to detect underground water locations by using a forked stick as a dowsing rod. Mr. Cross was a game warden in Maine in the Kennebecport area.

I had read this book about 15 years ago and it now again interested me because Ruth's cousin Almon Gray had dowsed locate water for him on Deer Isle this past summer, while I was there to watch.

I had never known what degree of the salinity in drinking water is acceptable. (your present problem). On page 216 of this book I find:-

"Laboratory Report"
Report of findings..... 17.5 parts chloride/100000
Sea water is..... 1100 " " "
To taste salt it must be about 140 parts / "

R.E. Shaw, M.D. "

Also, on page 253, I find this:-

"The pH may be determined with Nitrazine Paper, which you can get at a pharmacy. Generally speaking water which has a pH of 7.0 is considered neutral. Anything less than 7.0 is considered acid and corrosive. Anything over 7.0 can be considered on the alkaline side and non-corrosive. Waters with a low pH, that is, considerably under 7.0, should not be piped in copper tubing because of its corrosive qualities." Now, I do not agree with the last sentence because our water here has a pH of about 4.5 and we have not had any corrosive problems in our copper pipes for the past 13 years.

I think the above information will be of interest to both you and Albert. I am sending him a copy of this letter.

Ruth saw the doctor on the 21st. He was satisfied with her condition, gave her additional medication and wants to see her again on 8 April.

Our plans for Maine, therefore are still indefinite.

Have you been able to get help to work on the island. We do not want you to work there alone. Hoping this finds you both in good shape

I remain,

sincerely your friend

How is Sid?
copy to Albert.

Bill 

Wednesday morning.

Dear Albert & Jean,

Just a hurried note this morning to let you know they have brought the plastic pipe over for our water. It is a large pipe. I should say 2 inch. They haven't dug the trench yet. I think that will be a job especially on that mountain. I think they are going to help Barthelme on too. I haven't heard anything about Greenie's. No one seems to know anything about his well and he doesn't seem much concerned himself. I hear it is down 3 ft from where it was 2 weeks ago and that doesn't sound good. Auro is down 3 ft. too. I heard Smith's is down too 7 ft but I don't think that has been measured every two weeks.

I hear there is a crowd of men over on the flat beyond the school house looking for mineral on Borings, just this side of where the Callahan road goes in. We hear Borings have given them permission to go on their property. They are also looking for mineral over across the road from Percy Gray's on the Magee place. Lillian Bakeman owns that and I understand she has leased it to the men. I hear they run out of the mineral here under the mountain and they are going in another direction. I hope they don't find any. I also heard they are not finding as much over in back of George & Victor's as they thought they would.

Debbie found one of your chippies dead.
we think a car run off it.

we had a good rain a few nights ago and
I guess it started your grass. we could see
it from our lower garden. The gardens are
coming good.

Bernard moved your lawn last night.
Dan has just gone down to the cottage and
it is about time for the mail so I must
close.

we will be seeing you all soon. I had
a letter from Mrs Miles yesterday and she
said they plan to stay through September
this year, if the weather permits.

Sincerely,
Marian.

1 Monday Morning. 14 APR 64

Dear Albert & Jean,

We received our water test last Saturday unsatisfactory as we had thought it would be. I am sending it to you so you can get a duplicate of it. Brainard would like to have you contact Col. Greene and ask him to have his water tested as soon as he comes. Brainard thinks Col. Greene's well will be bad now. Tell him to run the water for about an hour that is what Brainard did to get a true test. If you don't you get the fresh water on top. Brainard would like to wait until Col. Greene & the League come. He thinks the Company will have to put in some kind of a water supply for the community here. He would like to talk it over with Col. Greene and see what he thinks. Mr. Malcolm came over Saturday and I think he would like to take water over from the mine. I don't want that do you. It seems to me that would be awfully warm and their water is likely to go bad any time, I should think. I suppose Miss Anita has gone over seas for about a month. She planned to

go last Saturday. I think she went ~~by~~ ^{by} boat. I think that trip is too much for her now.

Reta's family came down for the week end. They all went home last night as Debbie & Glenn have a music lesson to-day and Glenn has to look up some material for a paper he has to write for school. They plan (Reta, Debbie & Glenn) to come back to-morrow and stay until Thursday, then go back Thursday and come back Friday. Reta wants to paint on the boat. Reta has her contract for next year and I think 650.00 name. She plans to take two courses this summer. And on teaching music, the other on ^{insects} she took reading, english & math last year. I think she is taking courses that will count on her master's degree.

Brainard intended to look at your pond last week end but didn't have time, they spent all the time they had on the boat. Mary saw a moose down there about a week ago and I forgot to tell you. There still is ice on the pond. I think she said there was a seal on the side of the car but am not sure. Bill & Ruth Inlas called us last night.

mom I have called a number of times
this winter.

I have the yellow quilt all done
and it is handsome! I was afraid the
yellow wouldn't show up much on the
unbleached but it does. I sent for the
light blue cloth and it came Saturday
in two pieces, different shades and neither
piece was large enough for the back so
I have to send it back to-day and order
it at another place. I promised Debbie
I would make her a butterfly quilt
next winter. She liked the one I have
made so much.

Debbie embroidered all day Saturday
and yesterday. She does a wonderful
job, better than I can do. We have started
things for a cedar chest for her. I have
made one pair pillow cases and am on the
edge of the second pair. I am crocheting the edge. I
am going to send you ^{to-day} some pillow cases
and a scarf for her to embroider. She is
awfully smart.

Peta left the dog here so we have a lot
of company. She and the cat are so cute together.
The dog likes to stay with us.
I must close for this time. Best wishes
to all.

Sincerely,
Marian.

Apr. 27, 1969

Dear Albert;

Bart has appreciated your communications with him, and had hoped to write you before this. Now he has asked me to let you know that he has not heard a word from Mr. Vaffades (to be sure, - he wrote him just once last fall but received no answer.)

Bart has been unusually busy at school this year, as there have been many meetings of committees and such, - and the school is in the process of interviewing applicants for the position of Headmaster. Also he has been in charge of the Worcester County Math League which has taken up a great deal of his time with preparation of Math League

2/
tests etc. He just returned home last evening from the National Council of Teachers of Math meetings in Minneapolis - for four days.

We will not be able to get to Maine until some time in June. We are most concerned about what the water situation will be when we get up there. We hope that my brother, Bill League, will check our well when he goes up to my Mother's place - (hopefully the end of May!) But if anyone should want to check it before then we can send a boy.

We are most discouraged about the whole situation, and feel we have not accomplished anything this winter - (mainly because Bart has not had time to do so.) We appreciate your

efforts - and have kept posted
thru the Ellsworth American,
which we have been receiving
all year. We will be interested to
know how you find things
when you go to Harborside, -
and wonder when the Greaves
will be heading that way.

Hoping you and your family
have had a good winter, and
looking forward to seeing you
at Harborside.

Most sincerely,
Evangeline Barthelman

Harborside Me

May 1969

Dear Albert:

I do not think it best to just tell Callahan to go ahead and pipe us in water until all those involved get to-gether and decide what is best for us all. Promises and word of mouth are no good and is not binding.

I think we have got to draw up some kind of ~~an~~ contract or an agreement with no loopholes for them to get out from under

and leave us holding the
empty bag.

I do not enjoy using jugs
for water, but it is better
to do that for a time, until
we can have assurance
that we will have a
permanant supply of good
water. Also pipes below
frost for winter use.

I have a feeling that
May Veague, Barthelman,
and Col. Green are going
to have trouble, also,
and it is going to take
a good supply to keep us
all going. I do not believe
they have a well good enough
to supply us all.

I do not think it is any use to drill any more wells on our property, as we ~~also~~ probably will get the same kind of water.

They have good water at the mine, and law making them carry our drinking water now.

They could also lose their supply either by blasting or drainage then what.

I think the only answer to our problem is as Mr. Malcolm says a reservoir on the mountain, which they will have to fill and

-4-

run a pipeline to us -
gravity feed.

I have talked it over
with Bill Hunter and
he thinks as I do that
we had better wait ~~and~~
until you and Col Green
come down and we can
make a permanent agreement
with Callahan. I think we
should have a lawyer
advise us and draw up
an agreement that will
protect our rights,

Your dam is holding about
the same water not quite up
to the first overflow and
leaking out the end by the
cement. Best regards to you
and family Sincerely Barnard 

Albert, if you should see a package of dandelion green seed will you please get one for me? I like dandelion greens and we have only a handful here. I saw three greens beside your garden in the grass. I thought I might steal those as they will be gone by when you folks come. I hope you haven't put out any weed killer or anything of that sort. I guess it would be O.K. anyway after all the snow we have had. I can't get any dandelion seed here or in the catalogs. I doubt if you ever see any. I thought I would plant some if I could find some seed. Mary's lawn is covered with them and I would see some blossoms of here for seed but they mow the lawn before they blossom so I don't think they have any blossoms.

The Self Crowd of 5 were here for the week end. Davis Bourne was with them and she looks terrible. we are terribly worried about her. She had $\frac{2}{3}$ of her stomach out with ulcers. She can only

eat a tiny bit at a time and eat often. She is a wonderful person. I think you folks know her. I think she wears only a size 18. I think I had rather be large if I don't trim a boat good. The wrinkles are filled out.

Brainard & I both have felt terribly sad after seeing her. Ken didn't come just the wheelers, Selfis and Davis. They plan to come again the 24th with a larger crowd. The Selfis & wheelers will stay at the cottage then. I understood Massachusetts is ~~observing~~ ^{observing} Memorial May 26th. I think all their holidays are observed on Mondays.

I have a tomato plant 12 or 13 inches tall now I doubt if it is any good by the end of the month when I sell them out.

Bill & Debbie were down for the week end but Beta had to teach. She finished her Saturday make up time so we expect her this week end. The boat is most done. Brainard painted the mast last night.

We hope to see you soon. Best wishes to all from all of us. Maman.

Tuesday morning.

Dear Albert + Jean,

you don't know how pleased we were to receive the booklet of your pictures yesterday, Albert. Mr Maestretti seemed to be very pleased with his too. I doubt if Maestretti is here after July but he isn't sure yet, so don't mention it to anyone. I think he is anxious to go back home. We hate to have him go as we are afraid it will be harder for us. We have been able to talk and reason with him. I heard yesterday Callahan may be here 20 years. That is a hard outlook for us as if that is the case we probably will never see it peaceful and quiet here again. I also heard the past week or maybe it was months is the first time they have been making any money over there. I understand they found some (I don't know how much) good copper, I guess in under the mountain. Wouldn't that be their luck? Maybe it won't last. I probably wrote you up. I heard they contacted Ferdie Clifford (Earl's father) and want permit to cross his land. We also heard drill on it. Brainard's Cousin told me Ferdie's wife said cross the land. That sounds like they plan to work down to the head of the Cape. Brainard's Cousin (Lucy Dennis) also said they sent Ferdie a map with the land owners name on it and one was Maurice Dennis. ~~I don't~~ but they hadn't heard anything from the company. I doubt if they would let them go on them but I

don't know. Money talks.

Bill came over to Steve's from his trip to Ellsworth, I guess, yesterday and Bernard went up after work and they worked on the road. I think he plans to come over again Wednesday and they want to put the mast in. It blew too hard for that yesterday.

We have been advised not to sign any release on the well I guess under any conditions unless we are positively sure that is what we want. I don't think I would sign under any conditions. We might feel some thing was what we wanted and C. K. and later some thing go wrong.

We bought our fertilizer last night. We probably will start planting soon. Many thanks for the seeds you sent.

We hear they are working night and day over by Victor's. I haven't heard how noisy it is when they get to blasting that will be different, I guess they are only drilling now.

Miss Anita went to Boston yesterday and I think she will ^{be} gone about 10 days. She has gone to the dentist.

I must close as it is nearly time for the mail. Best wishes to all.

Sincerely,

Marian
Many thanks for every thing. The lard has been gone for some time so you see I haven't set around all the time this winter. We had

some good food while it lasted. Reta said my pie crust was awfully good I guess she didn't know the reason why. I must tell her. I always buy pure lard for doughnuts.

Do you remember Bill's old black Chevy? Some one stole both rear wheels, the spare tire and I don't know what else and stove up the radiator. The trunk was locked and I think the car doors and they broke those open. I think they have an idea who did it.

The Levesque's house in Bar Harbor was broken into and they marked on the walls. I didn't hear of anything taken.

Bill had given the old Chevy to Glenn so I suppose he is fixed broken. Bill & Reta thought a lot of the car too. I think Bill's parents gave it to them when they were married.

Frank Babson had an accident Friday night on his way home over by Dorothy Grays. On the hill this side of where the post office was. He turned out for a bad place in the road and a car was coming and hit him. He wasn't hurt but the car was damaged quite bad. He is quite upset about it.

Tuesday Afternoon.

Dear Albert & Jan,

The mail just brought your letter so I will add a note to Brainard's letter. Brainard & Bill Hunter feel the same as Bill Deague that we should get together this summer. We never heard how high the salt content was in Deague's well but I felt it was higher than ours was in the first test. It probably is much higher now if the fresh water is run off the top. It would be nice if you, Greene & Bill Deague could be here all at the same time. We felt a crowd could do more than just you and Brainard alone.

Miss Anita has been home a week ~~ago~~ ^{I think}. She plans to go to Boston the last of this week for a week. I haven't been over there yet. She told Brainard she would like to have me help her after she came home but I don't really know if I am equal to it or not this year. It is quite a walk up that hill and I am not as good as I was last year. I really think this mine has failed us both up a lot. I had hoped I could work a few years longer and probably would if she was on the main land but it is quite an effort to get over there and back. Debbie & Glenn will be with us for six weeks a little later and I couldn't work then. I really think I had better stay home and play safe, if I work and get sick things won't be as good as they are now. I don't think this being upset all the time helps any. We can't help but worry about how we will ever get any good water

again. Do you really think their well will furnish all their houses? we don't.

I hope Higgins will put an article in the American. They need publicity, the most people hear is their side of it (the good side).

Bill hasn't taken the boat off yet but I think it will be ready soon. I think there is another one to be taken off first. I haven't seen or heard from Beta for three weeks.

I must close as I want to get a note written to Mrs. Mulas. I like to take my mail to the post office here when I can. It gives this office the cancellation and I like the Harborside post mark better. That is what it has been all my life and I am too old to change now.

I think Brainard plans to mow the lawn in back of the house to-morrow for the first time this year. He thinks he will go over the garden for the first time with the cultivator and start getting it ready to plant.

Best wishes to all from all of us.

Sincerely,
Marian.

Saturday noon.

Dear Albert & Jean,

Mrs Manning was just in and brought the enclosed news clipping from the New York Times. She hadn't even noticed it and I told her about it yesterday when she was in here. She is disgusted with this article and so am I. She read the articles you sent us and she wants to know if you will make her a copy of the one with the picture of the dog fish. She also wants to know what paper that was in. She thought it wasn't in the Times magazine as it is too long a page but I see now it is a splined page. Very clever work. She thinks these articles are very good. She said Mr Hearings saw works for Time magazine and she would ask him why that page wasn't in ^{the} ~~the~~ magazine. I would make a copy of it if I was you and send it to John Canaday. We feel his article is ridiculous. Brainard took the articles you sent over to show Miss Anita yesterday but he didn't see her. She went to Castine for a hair do and then to lunch with a friend. He will take it over again Monday.

Sunday morning

Reta and Debbie came down last night. Glenn has gone on a Boy Scout camping trip this week end. Reta has to go home early to-day as he will be home early.

I asked Mr Malcolm about the wharf yesterday but didn't get much satisfaction. We heard some one had complained and stopped them on it but

He said no that wasn't so. He said something about giving it to the town, I suppose for a town landing. Levesque hasn't heard any more about it. He said they have the pipe for piping over the water. I think they plan to get right to work on it. Mr. Malcolm said something about a paper for us to sign about coming across our land. We probably will send it to you to read and see if it is O.K.

Monday morning.

Paul, Evangeline and May came last night. They are staying up here with May as there isn't much water in the Bartholomew's well. May said she was going to call Maestritt and I guess she did as I saw a mine truck go up there twice. I thought he probably came over and got her jugs for water. Now is the time for Col. Greene to get a good test on his water and get hooked up with the rest of us if he needs too. He never called while he was here so I don't think he is very interested. I think he should run off a lot of water when he comes and get a good test himself. Ferdie Clifford's family have been all for the mine, even his wife went to Augusta to vote for it. I heard the Company has written to inquire if they can go across his land. They are all alike just looking for that dollar. You know they are drilling on Ferdie's sister's land over there now. I heard they are not finding what they thought they would. I also heard they are not taking any copper.

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in Canada now (strike or something) and they are stock piling it here. I hope they never do get a chance to sell it.

Brainard hoed your potatoes yesterday. He couldn't get much dirt to cover them. Do he said you probably would have to cover them with hay. He hoed all of ours yesterday too. He goes through between the rows with the cultivator and digs up dirt to cover them but your rows were too close together to use the cultivator. You can use hay O.K. That is what Mrs. Mearns covers his with. Your garden is coming good. We had a good rain last night so probably your grass will start now. Brainard will watch it and we will let you know.

We received your letter Saturday with the other news clipping copy. I think that is like the one Mrs. Mearns brought up but I will send hers just the same. Many thanks for sending them.

Jimmy Sawyer has gone on a vacation. I think he is going to be gone two weeks. He sure has it easy.

It is nearly time for the mail so I must close and take my mail to the mailbox.

Best wishes to all from all of us.

Sincerely,

Maman.

4 Upper Dublin Homes Waterless For 118 Days as Lawyers Debate

By PETER H. BINZEN

Of The Bulletin Staff

"It's amazing," said Mrs. Wilbert Harrison, of 534 Bellaire av., Upper Dublin Township, "how you adjust to things. I mean you don't like it but you try to adjust."

What Mrs. Harrison, her husband and 11-year-old daughter have been adjusting to for the last four months is life without running water.

Their well went dry last Nov. 7 following blasting 100 yards away for installation of a sewer line to a new Upper Dublin elementary school.

Since then, not a drop of water has trickled from the kitchen tap in the Harrisons' attractive two-story frame house about a half-mile from the Highland av. exit of the Route 302 Expressway.

Bottled Water

Each weekday afternoon an Upper Dublin Township employe delivers four gallons of bottled water to the Harrisons' back door. And every night Harrison, an Internal Revenue Service worker in Philadelphia, throws two big plastic water jugs into his station wagon and drives to the home of a "very dear friend" in Pennlyn to fill up the jugs.

The Harrisons use the bottled water for drinking and cooking and the Pennlyn water for washing, bathing and sanitary facilities.

In this way, they have survived 118 waterless days.

Three neighboring families have been without water for just as long or longer. Wells at five other houses in the section are contaminated. In about ten additional cases, wells that apparently were polluted by the blasting last fall are now usable.

2-Month Delay Possible

While Upper Dublin officials are now actively seeking a solution to the problem—very belatedly so, in the residents' view—the chances are that water may not run into the nine houses for another one or two months at least.

Although Upper Dublin's population was 85 percent white in the 1960 census and all of its officials are white, the section with the dry and contaminated wells is 100 percent black. This fact has caused bad feeling.

Most of the Negro families moved to Upper Dublin from Philadelphia within the last 20 years. Upper Dublin, a green suburb between Abington and Ambler, has seen vast growth in that period. The township counted 804 Negro families in 1960, and many of them were middle-class office workers and professionals.

Each House Has Own Well

In the section where the blasting occurred are just 21 houses on Highland and Bellaire avs. They are neatly kept and situated on large lots. They appear to have cost from \$15,000 to upwards of \$25,000. They were built individually and each

has its own well.

By contrast, most of the remainder of the township is served by the Ambler Water Co.

One reason why relief has been so slow in coming to the waterless families is that it has been difficult to fix responsibility for the problem.

Last fall work was proceeding along Highland av. on a big sewer line to the Fort Washington elementary school, which is scheduled to open in September at Fort Washington and Highland avs.

Sewer Contract

The Upper Dublin School Board had asked for the sewers and the Upper Dublin Sewer Authority, created by the state on request of the township, had contracted for its construction. The contract went to Slaw-Landis Paving Co., Inc., of Norristown.

In mid-October, Slaw-Landis started blasting at Highland and Bellaire avs., reportedly within 200 yards of all the houses that later reported damage.

A Slaw-Landis official said that before the blasting began the company sent a man around to notify residents. Mrs. Harrison said nobody warned her. Mrs. Gladys C. Gould, acting president of the Bellaire-Highland av. Neighborhood Association, said she received word that "lasting was planned but that it wouldn't start for more than a month."

Pictures Fall Off Walls

"The very next week," she



CANNISTER OF WATER is carried to her Upper Dublin Township home by Mrs. Wilbert Harrison. There has been no running water in her house since blasting for a sewer-line installation last Nov. 7.

said, "there was this tremendous explosion. Pictures fell off our walls."

Other residents complained of cracked walls, weakened foundations and damaged fireplaces. "I have cracks in here due

to the blasting that would make you sick," said Mrs. Harrison.

Immediately after the blasting, she said, the family's 88-foot well became contaminated. "Then I turned on the spigot one day and nothing came out."

she said, "That's how it's been ever since."

Other families reported similar experiences.

Tuesday Morning.

Dear Albert + Jean,

Just a hurried note this morning to let you know dear little Debbie is in the hospital in Lewiston. When she went for her check up the doctor found some thing wrong and he wanted her in the hospital for tests. He thinks something is enlarged in her abdomen. They took her to the hospital Sunday night and yesterday they tested her kidneys and they are O.K. She may have to have an operation and if they can't do it here they will send her to the children's hospital in Boston. Reta taught yesterday and ~~to~~ planned to teach to-day and go to see Debbie after school. She has a substitute starting to-morrow. Bill is going to come after her to-day, he has been in that area this week and was near Debbie. I think they plan to stay with Bill's father night and look after him. Bill's mother was supposed to go into the hospital yesterday for a slight operation and would be there 4 or 5 days. We don't know if Debbie can stand a serious operation or not but we just have to take what comes. Reta says we just have to have faith but the way things go with us I haven't much faith. Debbie has put up a big fight so far the past ten years and if she can only fight a little longer she may win. We are terribly upset.

we just cannot fight this water situation any longer. Skell has dilly dallied so long now if he has any papers he can sign them himself. we will leave it with Greene to do what he wants to and your judgement. Jimmy said the ceilings and walls over there are all cracking to pieces and I think Miss Anita will work on that too. I understood him Miss Anita is going to have another lawyer. we feel she should.

I heard this morning they have been out of the vein and I hope they have to go. I also heard Lib Leach is complaining the blasts over there are shaking things off the shelves and I guess she is sick of it now that it has come to them. I told Malcolm yesterday the underground blasts are heavier than the others. He said he didn't know what they could do about it. There is a lot of vibration here now when they are not blasting at times. The side of the house here by the TV on the end toward the barn vibrates and trembles steady. It was most of the evening last night so it must be the underground work. I have noticed it a lot lately.

I must close as we are going up to get the dog this afternoon. A friend is taking Glenn for the rest of the week or until Reta comes home. She may be home the last of the

week. She probably will call us to- night
if she finds out any more. This is the
worst thing that has ever come to us.

I am giving you Debbie's address in case
the girls want to send her a card. Beta
thinks if a card has to postage they will
re-mail it if she isn't there.

Deborah Hunter
M4 Room 484
Central Maine General Hospital
300 Main Street
Sewiston
Maine. 04240.

I will let you know what we hear
from her.

Best wishes from all of us.

Sincerely,
Marian.

a few words from the well drillers president

to the editor:

There was an act to "Regulate the Drilling of Wells and Installation of Pumps" submitted last year to the 104th Legislature. It was "indefinitely postponed" because the Legislature felt it was "not essential" at that time.

If the 105th Legislature decides to be more consistent in their approach to environmental pollution in 1971, then perhaps the road salt-water supply problem might in part be solved.

This bill provided uniform construction standards for drilled wells, aquifer protection from abandoned wells, and minimum distances from sources of pollution.

Maine Times (Jan. 16) published a most interesting article on road salt and wells. The material was provided by Professor Frederick E. Hutchinson of the University of Maine. Professor Hutchinson did a survey of water wells during the period between July 1965 and June 1969 and in addition to wells, covered rivers and roadside vegetation.

His research team made semi-annual tests of 100 wells selected at random within different parts of the state. The wells were within 60 feet of the highway and 25 percent of those surveyed were found polluted. Considered unfit for human consumption by U.S. Bureau of Health standards.

The article failed to mention that more than half of the wells surveyed were drilled wells and more than half of the polluted wells were surface wells. This essentially means that there is far less probability of a drilled well becoming polluted than of a surface well.

Let me at this point differentiate between surface wells and drilled wells.

Surface wells generally are from 5 feet to 25 feet deep. They depend on local sources to replenish themselves.

The water in them is usually surface water and is accordingly much more susceptible to pollution.

They can be recently constructed or 150 years old, but in all probability they share a similar distinction. They were not constructed in such a manner as to insure against pollution of any kind.

On the other hand, a drilled well is usually from 40' to 200' deep. Occasionally circumstances and conditions warrant deeper wells, even to the depth of 1000 feet or more.

The water in a drilled well occurs in water-bearing zones (or aquifers) far below the surface of the ground. Most often a fissure, seam or bedding plane will yield the water supply for the well. Some drilled wells are completed in gravel zones rather than in the bedrock.

In either case the quality of the water is usually superior to that of its surface neighbor; in addition it has, in most cases, the additional characteristics of superior abundance and stability. The drilled well might be brand new or around 60 years old.

Regardless of when it was drilled, this type of well is also susceptible to pollution if the well casing is not placed far enough into the bedrock or gravel aquifer or if a seal at this point is not accomplished.

About a dozen years ago a revolution in the water well industry took place in Maine. High speed drills came onto the scene. This equipment could drill more wells, penetrate the ground faster and do a better job, if the

operator cared to. From that time on the trend has been for better workmanship, better service and above all a more responsible contractor.

This state has seen the water well industry experience a transition from being a relatively small business to a multi-million dollar industry, constructing thousands of water wells each year. The state also has a trade organization called The Water Well Drillers Association of Maine.

Although the trend within the industry has been for more conservation minded practices, there still remains a segment which chooses to ignore such matters. Legislation would force these people to clean up their operation.

Regardless of equipment used, a competent workman can drill a well 10 feet from a salt pile and get good water. It merely involves placing the casing deeper into the ground and sealing it properly.

Again, legislation could make this mandatory. This would make for better and safer wells and minimize the road salt problem.

The efforts of people such as Professor Hutchinson and the combined efforts of Maine's water well contractors have, heretofore, failed to impress the legislature. At this point, I feel the only way to motivate them is through public awareness of the issue. This is my purpose in writing. Thank you, Maine Times.

George Palmer, President

WWDA of Maine

Water Well Drillers Assn.
63 Elm St., Topsham

WATER

Easton wells siphoned off

Six Easton families whose wells have been depleted by nearby drilling for Maine Sugar Industries are seeking redress through legal avenues or negotiation. Neither course has been successful so far.

Four wells, ranging from 30 to 70 feet deep, went dry when the Vahlsing-owned MSI began pumping from two newly-drilled 200-foot wells to serve the beet processing plant. The affected families live across from the plant on property that is almost completely surrounded by MSI holdings and within a few hundred feet of the new deep wells.

One of the families affected are the Henry Johnstons and their four children, whose 30-foot well was the first to go dry, two weeks ago.

They have appealed to the State attorney general, the town of Easton, to Pine Tree Legal Society and a private attorney and have been told they have no legal grounds for a suit, because no law has been broken. Pine Tree Legal is still investigating, and has set up a meeting with the families for Monday.

"Our only hope," Mrs. Johnston said, "is for an agreement with MSI to get water from its new supply. We're willing to pay for it, but they won't even talk to us."

The company has supplied each house with a small tank and enough water to flush toilets and a small amount for drinking. There is not enough for baths or clothes washing, however.

If the company cannot be persuaded to give or sell an adequate water supply to the six families, the prospects for other solutions are bleak. The two MSI wells now operating are pumping out some 200 gallons a minute and have drained an area extending 400 feet from the site. At least one other well is now being drilled.

Mrs. Johnson considers drilling new private wells futile in the face of that competition. The cost of going deep enough to the lowered water table would be prohibitive.

They have considered going in together and starting a water company of their own, but that, too, would be expensive and possibly futile.

The town of Easton has no municipal water system, and no plans to install one. Town officials say there is nothing they can do to help.

That leaves the irregular deliveries of water from MSI to the small tanks and dependence on friends outside the depleted area.

In addition to the Johnstons, families dependent on this day-to-day scrounging for water are Mrs. Estella Carney, an 80-year-old widow and her widowed daughter, Mrs. Phyllis DeMerchant, who share a well; the Rupert Langleys and Harold Crays, who share another, and Mrs. Charles Gardiner, a school teacher.

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WATER

looking brighter

Things are looking brighter on Station Road in Easton, where Maine Sugar Industries is having four wells deepened for families along the road. The wells, serving six families, all went dry after the company began pumping from its own new deep wells last month.

When Maine Times talked to some of the families last week, there was a feeling that the company was indifferent to their plight. But such was not the case; on the same day plant manager George M. Philbrick met with Rupert Langley, whose well was one of the first to go dry, and promised to have the Station Rd. wells drilled to the lowered water table. Work began Monday.