

ers since the second world war have added to the cost of operating the sewage treatment plant. Garbage grinders add considerable bulk to the "used water" and this bulk is expensive to process. More chemicals and more equipment are required to do the job.

All indications are that more and more garbage grinders will come into use. Since January 1, 1956 Detroit has had an ordinance requiring installation of food waste disposal equipment in every new

home. In some new suburban areas most of the homes have garbage disposal units.

UP TO NOW customers have not been charged for the added expense of removing ground garbage. In effect, many people have been getting an expensive extra service at no extra cost to themselves.

A small adjustment in the sewage rate to meet the cost of providing service became effective January 1, 1959. The sewage rate

is paid as part of the water bill and is based on water consumption. The rate increase will be ten cents per 1,000 cubic feet of water used. Most families use about 1,000 cubic feet of water a month, so the increase will cost the average household only ten cents monthly.

The rate increase is slight because both Detroit and suburban customers will share the cost (and the benefits) of the expansion program.

The last increase in Detroit sewage rates was made nine years ago in 1949. As most customers know,

tax money is not used to build or operate the sewage disposal system. This sanitation service is completely self-supporting and is paid for by the sewage rate.

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Detroit Plans Growth Of Sewage System

Detroit has adopted a \$33 million program to enlarge sewage treatment facilities to treat all the sewage from Detroit, Dearborn and other Wayne county areas, as well as parts of Macomb and Oakland counties. The proposed service area, which will eventually serve 4,000,000 people, is shown on the accompanying map.

Mayor Louis C. Miriani, who is interested in continued area-wide development, has authorized the program.

The Detroit sewage treatment plant opened in 1940. It is operated by Gerald Remus, general manager of the department of water supply,

Today it serves over 2,667,000 people in Detroit and 34 suburbs. The modern treatment plant removes solids from the community's "used water" and destroys disease germs before the water is returned to the river.

SINCE THE second world war, demands on the sewage plant have multiplied and it now operates near capacity. Several things are responsible: 1. Industrial growth has increased industrial wastes. 2. Our rising standard of living requires higher per capita use of water. 3. More and more domestic and commercial grinders are being used—this has increased the "bulk" the plant must process. 4. Population is booming.

Miriani and the board of water commissioners are anxious to get the building program under way to foster expansion of the metropolitan area.

Many suburban communities desperately need adequate sewers and sewage disposal systems to allow their further growth. Home building in some newly developed areas has been prohibited by state health authorities until these are available.

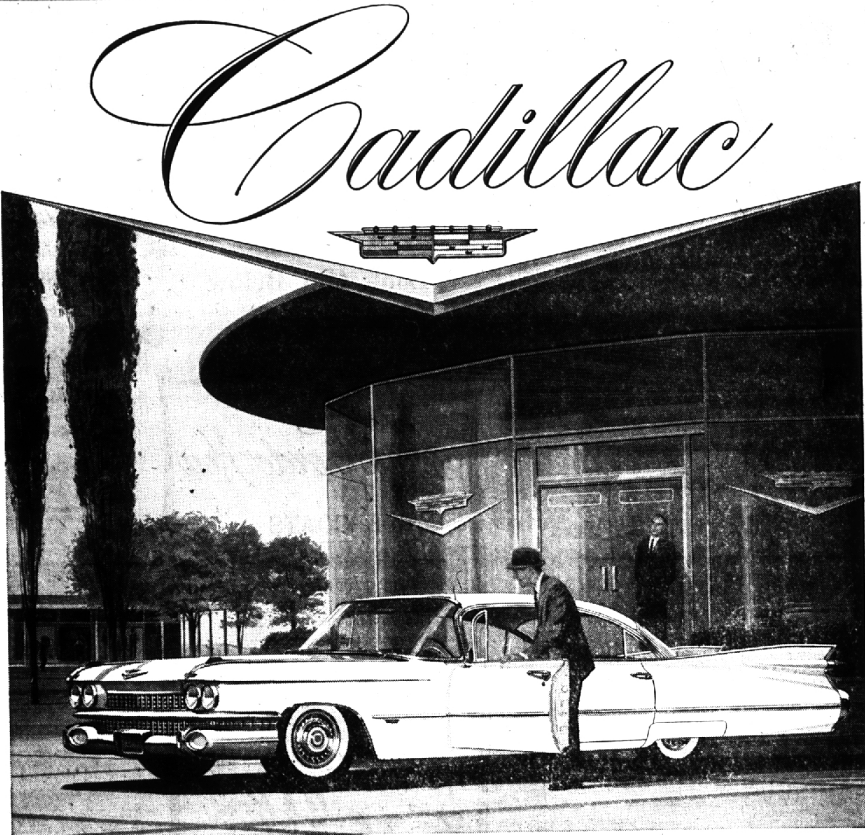
East Dearborn will hook up to the Detroit system this year. West Dearborn will join within the next two years. Additional parts of western Wayne, southeastern Oakland and southern Macomb counties will be served as soon as they do the necessary work on their own systems and Detroit treatment capacity is available. The map shows how the present Detroit sanitation area will grow by 1960.

Detroit contributed its share toward the solution of this area-wide problem by beginning in the fall of 1958 to build larger sewage disposal facilities. The program will be done in three stages: Between 1958 and 1961, \$20 million will be invested to enlarge the treatment plant. Improvements and extensions will be made to Detroit's interceptor sewer so that waste from neighboring communities can be accepted from their sewer systems.

From 1961 to 1965 more new buildings and equipment will be built to handle the higher load of waste material. From 1965 to 1975, \$7 million will be spent to complete expansion of the plant.

BOTH DETROIT and suburban customers will benefit from the sewage expansion program. Expanded facilities will insure better community health, promote further development of suburban areas, and provide the improved service customers are demanding.

Rising prices and the rapid increase in the use of garbage grind-



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