

# PIPE REPORT

A/C Pipe Producers Association

Suite 1113 • 1875 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009 • (202) 232-2100

April 1976

Volume 2, Number 3

## PROFILE



Richard H. Stanley

Although the improbable location of Muscatine, Iowa, belies the diverse international operations of Stanley Consultants, its President does not. Richard H. Stanley embodies a "philosophy of diversification" by both personal and professional example. He describes himself as a "hybrid engineer" having received a double Bachelor of Sciences degree in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering at Iowa State. Night school at the University of Iowa produced a Masters in Sanitary Engineering.

This same penchant for diversification also characterizes the Stanley consulting firm. From a regional hydraulics and drainage engineering company founded in 1913, Stanley Consultants continually widened its scope until in 1976, it offers services in all areas of engineering, architecture, planning and management. Iowa may be first in their hearts, but certainly not in corporate operations. Stanley offices are located in several major U.S. cities, Monrovia, Liberia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Lagos, Nigeria and the Philippines, among others.

## Safe Drinking Water Act—A Tough Act to Follow?

*This is the fourth and final part of a special series of AACPP articles on the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. Part 3 discussed the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) study and its impact on drinking water standards. Part 4 wraps up some of the "loose," but important ends of the law ... the Loan Guarantee Program, Rural Water Survey and National Drinking Water Advisory Council.*

### AACPP to Exhibit at Consulting Engineers Convention

AACPP will unveil its new "A/C America's Choice" exhibit at the Design Engineers Exposition for the Construction Industry sponsored by The American Consulting Engineers Council (ACEC). The show will be held May 18-20, 1976, in Washington, D.C.

The "America's Choice" exhibit will highlight the results of the A/C Cities Survey; an attractive new literature display area has also been added. A special display will simulate AACPP's second full page advertisement and feature a section of 28-year old A/C pipe alongside an equally clean "factory fresh" section.

The ACEC Convention is expected to attract 700-1,000 of the nation's leading consulting engineers. The convention program will include presentations on contract pricing, business development, legislative and EPA update, professional liability and project management. Group discussions on specific ACEC position problems will also be conducted. George A. Christie, the noted economist from McGraw-Hill Information Systems, will discuss the economy and the construction industry and former Federal Energy Administration Director, John Sawhill, will comment on "Energy and Big Government."

ACEC will also make two special bicentennial "Amicus Awards" to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and William Wallace Moore, Senior Consulting Partner, Dames & Moore (San Francisco).

### Part Four National Drinking Water Advisory Council

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires the Environmental Protection Agency Administrator to establish a council to advise him and make recommendations on EPA's activities and policies under the drinking water law. In April, 1975, after consulting with the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, EPA Administrator Russell Train named two women and thirteen men to a "National Drinking Water Advisory Council."

The Council is comprised of five members from the general public, five members from "... appropriate state and local agencies concerned with water hygiene and public water supply" and five members from private organizations "... demonstrating an active interest" in water supply and hygiene. Each member holds a three year term. Among the notable appointees are Chester A. Ring III (a director of National Association of Water Companies, and AWWA President-Elect), Walter K. Morris (present AWWA President) and Henry Ongerth (Chief, Bureau of Sanitary Engineers, Calif. Dept. of Health).

The Council is divided into specific interest subgroups: research, underground sources, training and public affairs. A typical Council meeting lasts two days and includes an update on EPA water and research programs and major presentations by federal agencies/bodies also involved in the safe drinking water program (e.g. FDA, National Cancer Institute, National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences, public participation and subgroup reports).

The most recent meeting, held on April 21-22 in Washington, D.C., spent a considerable amount of time discussing the National Academy of Sciences study. Specific concern was expressed about the NAS position on establishing "maximum contaminant levels (MCL's) "for carcinogens in drinking water" (see PIPE REPORT, Vol. II, No. 3).

Although the National Drinking  
(Continued on page 4)

## VIEWPOINT

### What You Say Is What You Get

Within the month, a rather straightforward questionnaire will be mailed to AACPP member company staff and sales personnel. Its purpose is threefold:

1. To measure the visibility of AACPP programs.
  2. To determine the tangible impact of these programs.
  3. To reassess existing priorities and obtain input for new priorities for all AACPP activities.
- There are no sophisticated rationales, no ulterior motives. The questionnaire is "an attitude study"

... a simple tool to keep the Association's officers and staff informed of member needs, opinions and grievances.

In a year filled with bicentennial platitudes and campaign rhetoric, it seems rather trite to say "Make your voice heard!" or "Cast your vote for the future!" Let's look at the situation more pragmatically. What you should be doing for the Association is saying what the Association should be doing for you ... and what you say is what you get.



John Ariss



George Barge

### Atlas and Canadian J-M Officers to Co-Chair Annual Meeting

AACPP President W. R. Blankenship (Certain-teed) has announced the appointment of *George Barge* and *John Ariss* as Co-Chairmen for the Association's Fourth Annual Meeting to be held in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.

John Ariss is Vice President and General Marketing Manager of the Products Division of Canadian Johns-Manville Co., Ltd., headquartered in Toronto. He is that company's representative to the AACPP Board of Directors.

Mr. Ariss received his degree in Civil Engineering (Queens University) and a Masters in Business Administration from McMaster University. He joined Canadian Johns-Manville in 1963 and progressed through the department to General Marketing Manager for pipe in 1972. Three years later, he was promoted to General Marketing Manager for the Products Division. Mr. Ariss is a member of the Ontario Association of

Professional Engineers, the Ontario Section of AWWA and the Pollution Control Association.

George Barge is President of Atlas Asbestos Company (Montreal, Canada) and Second Vice-President of AACPP. He joined the Keasbey and Mattison Company in St. Louis in 1934 and later attended St. Louis and Washington Universities. After moving to K&M corporate headquarters in Ambler, Pennsylvania, in 1946, he was promoted to a number of positions including Director and Vice President of Financing.

Mr. Barge joined Atlas in 1963. In addition to being President of that firm, he is President of Turner Building Products Co., Ltd. (Mission, B.C.), a Director of Bell Asbestos Mines Ltd., is on the Canadian Manufacturing Association and the Executive Committee of the Asbestos Information Association (AIA).

## Meetings and Conventions

### May 18-20, 1976

American Consulting Engineers Council Exposition for the Construction Industry  
Sheraton Park Hotel  
Washington, D.C.

### May 31-June 4, 1976

Clean Air and Water Exhibition  
U.S. Trade Center  
Sydney, Australia

### June 2-3-4, 1976

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)  
C-17 (Asbestos-Cement Products) Committee Meeting  
Denver, Colorado

### June 20-25, 1976

American Water Works Association Annual Convention  
The Rivergate  
New Orleans, Louisiana

### June 27-29, 1976

National Association of Counties Annual Conference and Exhibit  
The Salt Palace  
Salt Lake City, Utah

### July 13-16, 1976

AACPP Annual Meeting  
Le Chateau Frontenac  
Quebec City, Quebec

### September 1-15, 1976

INTERBYTMASH - 76  
Second International Exhibition of Municipal Service & Domestic Equipment  
Moscow, Russia

### September 25-30, 1976

International Public Works Congress & Equipment Show  
Las Vegas, Nevada

### October 3-8, 1976

49th Annual Conference of the Water Pollution Control Federation  
Minneapolis Convention Center  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

### Association of Asbestos-Cement Pipe Producers

Suite 1113  
1875 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

President: W. R. Blankenship (Certain-teed Products Corporation)

First Vice President: H. Taylor (The Flintkote Company)

Second Vice President: G. Barge (Atlas Asbestos Company)

Secretary: R. W. Smith (Johns-Manville Sales Corporation)

Treasurer: I. L. Taylor (Cement Asbestos Products Company)

Executive Director: Joseph C. Jackson  
Associate Director and Editor: John F. Welch



AACPP Executive Director Joe Jackson congratulates new NUCA President Bill Lee. L. to r.: Jackson, Homer Johnson (CAPCO), Lee, John Pannullo (NUCA Executive Director) and Jack Leach (NUCA President—1974)

## NUCA '76 Party Overwhelming Success for AACPP

The hardest working person at the National Utility Contractors Association "Spring Around the World" party was Bill O'Leary. Bill, who speaks with a thick Irish brogue, seemed quite at home as barkeep in AACPP's reproduction of a turn of the century saloon. A large wall of stained glass panels proudly boasted the Association's name. Historical construction drawings and domestic member company logos graced the area behind the bar. Red-checked tablecloths, wooden beer kegs and a brass grinder laden with Virginia's best goobers, were placed here and there for atmosphere. Peanut shells and sawdust crunched underfoot in appropriate accompani-

ment to Busch's best beer.

The reason that Bill O'Leary worked so hard was that everyone from the burly contractors to their diminutive daughters wanted crystal "America's Choice" tankards. Seven hundred fifty of them, with and without the liquid contents, were given away in two and a half hours at the social finale for the NUCA '76 Convention.

On behalf of the A/C pipe industry, AACPP Executive Director Joe Jackson presented incoming NUCA President Bill Lee with a special pair of drawings commissioned for the "America's Choice" program. One depicts the construction of one nation's most historic water utility projects, the

Croton Aqueduct, and the other illustrates a modern "ditchdigging" scene with A/C pipe being installed.

The event was well-attended by contractors and member company personnel alike. Representing industry along with AACPP staff were Bruce Eaton (J-M Northeast District Sales Manager), Bill Perrell (CAPCO General Sales Manager and AACPP Industry Promotion Committee Chairman), Al Leff (Certain-teed Product Manager—Sewer Pipe), Homer Johnson (CAPCO), Marv Watson (J-M), Ken Pankey (CAPCO) and John Warwick (J-M).

## EPA Releases Results of Asbestos Study

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced the preliminary results of a two-year drinking water survey which found "measurable" amounts of asbestos in treated and untreated water.

Dr. Andrew Breidenbach, EPA Assistant Administrator for Water and Hazardous Materials commented, "The results are varied and inconclusive due to the limited amount of sampling in any specific location and the nature of the measurement techniques available for asbestos detection."

The findings, which came from the ten cities in which EPA regional offices are located, are part of a nationwide asbestos sampling program (see

PIPE REPORT, Vol. I, No. 1). Samples from 20 other cities are also being analyzed and the results will be released shortly.

Asbestos fibers were found in the waters of Atlanta, Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Seattle. The actual "fibre counts" (fibres per liter) ranged from a high of 230 x 10<sup>6</sup> in Philadelphia to lower amounts in other cities. No detectable levels of asbestos were found in the raw or finished waters of Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City and New York.

Although Boston, Philadelphia and Atlanta samples exhibited "measurable fiber levels," other samples taken at the same locations showed little or

no asbestos. Such variances emphasize the preliminary and inconclusive nature of the findings. Further studies will be made to identify the sources of the asbestos. EPA scientists conjecture that asbestos-bearing rock formations, mining operations and asbestos manufacturing operations are the likely sources of fiber introduction.

It should be noted that in all cases, raw water was sampled at the intake side of the water treatment plant and finished water at the discharge side. No samples/measurements were made in the distribution system or at the tap.

### Safe Drinking Water Act—A Tough Act to Follow? (continued from Pg. 1)

Water Advisory Council is exactly what its name implies (an advisory committee), it carries considerable clout. Like its Clean Water Act counterpart, the National Commission on Water Quality, NDWAC may well be a catalyst for any future changes in the Safe Drinking Water Act.

### Rural Water Survey

SDWA makes provisions for conducting a nationwide survey of the quantity, quality and availability of rural drinking water supplies. The Survey, in the words of Victor J. Kimm, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water Supply, is "off to a bad start." EPA has had a difficult time gathering the necessary data to set up a computer model to be used in the Survey. These data include the number of residents (1) receiving inadequate public or private water service, (2) having limited access to water, (3) being exposed to an increased health hazard or (4) who have experienced acute or chronic illnesses attributable to an inadequate drinking water supply system.

The Rural Water Survey, mandated for completion by June 16, 1976, will probably not be released until December, 1976. The "bad start" and press of time will undoubtedly require that the scope of this important work be reduced.

If the results of the Survey depict a rural America wanting for better water supply systems, it could well be a shot in the arm for the water pipe industry.

### Loan Guarantee Program

Unknown to many, SDWA says that EPA must implement a loan guarantee program to assist small public water systems in meeting the interim primary and primary drinking water standards. Approximately \$50 million was appropriated by Congress to guarantee loans made by private lenders; maximum amount of guaranteed indebtedness may not exceed \$50,000. Such funding is available *only* if the utility cannot obtain financial assistance elsewhere.

This program is not and may not ever get off the ground as it is scheduled to terminate June 30 of this year.

### Conclusion

If you have read the three previous PIPE REPORT articles, little doubt should remain that the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974 is everything they said it would be . . . "bold, strong and far-reaching" . . . "an historic turning point in our national attitudes toward drinking water." It is all this and more. The skeptics (many within the waterworks industry itself) that said

the Safe Drinking Water Act would never pass Congress, *never* work, etc. may now reflect on the old Spanish idiom for "never say never." *Nunca diga de esta agua no beberé*. Literally translated, "never say, I will never drink this water."

### PROFILE (contd. from Pg. 1)

After all this, it should not be surprising to say that on May 18, 1976, Dick Stanley will become President of the American Consulting Engineers Council. ACEC, the offspring of a 1973 merger of the American Institute of Consulting Engineers and the Consulting Engineers Council of the U.S.A., is a federation of state and regional councils. It has a national membership of approximately 3,000 fully independent consulting engineers and land surveyors. Member firms range in size from those comprised of a few individuals to hundreds of design professionals. The majority, however, have 25 or less principals and employees and limit their practice to one or two disciplines of engineering (e.g. mechanical, civil, structural or electrical). Membership services include government/legislative liaison, domestic and international relations, scholarship and document assistance programs.

### Problems

When asked to characterize the major problems facing the consulting engineering profession, Dick quickly pointed to one of the most painful . . . the economy. He observed that by the very nature of the business, consulting engineers find themselves on the leading edge of any shift in the capital investment section of the economy and are thus the first to feel its effects. With conservative optimism, however, he believes that the industry has "turned the corner" and that "barring any major disasters," 1976 will be a good business year.

His second area of concern is the increasing regulation of business. "The very manner in which the consulting engineer practices and designs is being controlled, limited and regulated more and more," he said. In response to this regulatory activity, he noted that ACEC was expanding and upgrading its government affairs program. This effort will rank high in Stanley's priorities for ACEC. "The Consulting Engineers Council must speak with a stronger voice and provide more substantive input in the federal regulation making process, especially in those agencies that impact directly on our business."

### Effective Salesmanship

As an engineer himself, Dick was asked what the typical consulting en-

gineer considered the most effective means of receiving product information. "From the engineers office, the best sales tool *per se* is a complete and concise product catalog that includes all the necessary technical information with a *minimum* of 'sales puffery.'" Not to understate the importance of the human factor, he pointed out that a truly effective sales representative basically "has earned the confidence of the consulting engineer." He provides straight answers that reflect sound product knowledge or quick follow-up if he doesn't have the answer at his fingertips. "Engineers want to keep current on new technical developments and a good salesman can assist him in this regard."

### Value Analysis

One of the "new" developments discussed was value analysis. Stanley expressed the opinion that value engineering, value analysis, or life cycle costing is becoming an increasingly more common practice in consulting engineering firms. As a general rule, he pointed out that the larger the job, the more likely that an actual value analysis would be made by the engineer. "As a matter of fact," he said, "some of our clients *insist* on value engineering. Furthermore, ACEC itself has conducted VE seminars around the country. It looks like value engineering is here to stay."

As the interview drew to a close, one could not help but feel that Dick Stanley's personal and professional "philosophy of diversification" would be felt at ACEC . . . with equal zeal and equal success.

### PIPE REPORT To Expand Circulation

A recent AACPP Executive Committee decision will provide the springboard for broad-based distribution of PIPE REPORT. The monthly publication had previously been restricted to AACPP regular and associate members, their salesmen and distributors.

The request for wider distribution rights was based on increased number of requests from trade associations and federal/state officials with immediate interests in asbestos-cement water and sewer pipe. The federal agencies will include those with which AACPP maintains close liaison (e.g. Farmers Home Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Administration and Department of Commerce). It is expected that selected consulting engineers, contractors and municipal water/sewage works officials will also receive PIPE REPORT on a regular basis.



# PIPE REPORT

A/C Pipe Producers Association

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February 1976

Volume 2, Number 2

## PROFILE



### His Honor . . . The Typical Mayor

If there were such a person as a "typical" mayor or a "typical" city councilman, what would he or she be like? How old would he be? How educated? How much would he be paid? What about their political aspirations? What do they believe to be the most efficient ways to receive information or ideas relating to municipal government? These and similar questions were asked in a comprehensive survey conducted by the National League of Cities (NLC) and U.S. Conference of Mayors. The Survey results, while sometimes startling, provide a rare look into these increasingly important purchasing factors in the municipal market.

#### Mayors

The "typical mayor" is from a city of about 25,000 population. He is a white male in his forties (35.8%) or fifties (28.7%) and has either attended college (20.6%), has a bachelor's degree (19.8%) or holds a graduate degree (15.6%).

Somewhat surprisingly, the poll showed that he was not active in partisan politics prior to his election but rather ran for office in order to "help solve public problems and help people." The difference between "partisan" and "non-partisan" politics may

(Continued on page 4)

## Safe Drinking Water Act—A Tough Act to Follow?

*This is Part 2 of a special series of AACPP articles on the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. Part I provided an overview of the scientific, legislative and media forces that brought SDWA into being. Part 2 discusses the National Interim Primary Drinking Water Standards and their diverse impact on state government and the waterworks industry.*

### EPA Conducts Sewer Pipe Seminar

Region IV of the Environmental Protection Agency recently completed four one-day "underground conduit seminars" in Atlanta, Georgia. Region IV co-hosted this precedent-setting effort along with six national pipe associations, including AACPP.

The purpose of the seminars was to discuss design, installation, and performance of underground conduits for sewer systems. Presentations, one each Thursday during February, stressed the technical rather than sales features of each product.

The program, conceived by Region IV Administrator Jack E. Ravan and coordinated by EPA's Ray Cook and Bob Loughran, was specifically designed to assist State and Region EPA staff personnel in the review of sewer project plans and specifications. Region IV includes Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina.

AACPP Executive Director Joe Jackson and William Yahn (Manager, Marketing and Sales—Eastern Region, Flintkote) made presentations on behalf of the A/C pipe industry. Other participants included the Cast Iron Pipe Research Association, Plastics Pipe Institute, Uni-Bell Plastic Pipe Association, American Concrete Pipe Association, National Clay Pipe Institute and ARMCO Corporation.

Future seminars are scheduled for EPA-Region VI (Dallas) on May 13, 1976, and again at Region IV (Atlanta) for the Southeastern consulting engineers on May 27, 1976.

#### Part Two Interim Primary Regulations

The legislative mandate of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency to establish minimum drinking water standards to protect public health. Within a specified timetable EPA must promulgate regulations to enforce these standards and concurrently promote a joint Federal-State program for assuring compliance.

In March, 1975, EPA published the "proposed" Interim Primary Regulations for public comment. Major provisions of the Regulations included:

1. Maximum contaminant levels (MCL's) for certain chemical, biological and physical contaminants.
2. Monitoring frequencies.
3. Methods to notify customers of variances and non-compliance with standards.

EPA held public hearings in Boston, Chicago, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. Seventy-seven witnesses testified and several thousand pages of comments were received. After consideration of all testimony, written comments and available data, EPA on December 12, 1975, formally established the National Interim Primary Drinking Water Regulations. These are scheduled to go into effect in June, 1977.

#### Water Systems Covered

The Regulations apply to approximately 240,000 public water systems. Forty thousand are *community systems* (i.e. they have at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents). Based on EPA's public water supply inventory, about 177 million people are served by community water systems. Although community systems may be publicly or privately owned, the majority (58%) are public and account for 88% of the nation's total drinking water production.

The remaining 200,000 are *non-community systems* such as service stations, campgrounds and similar systems that serve transient populations.

(Continued on page 3)

## VIEWPOINT

### By Our Own Bootstraps

We have just completed a year that produced the lowest market demand for water and sewer pipe, in several years. However, we as an industry and a trade association have survived and are perhaps better prepared to cope with future problems due to lessons learned or remembered during the difficult days of the past year.

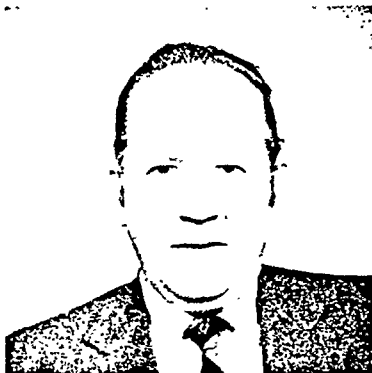
We are entering a year that offers promise of some improvement in the overall economic conditions. While this is welcome news, we must remember that one year ago the same political leaders and economists were making similar statements. Therefore, we must not rely too heavily on their forecasts but instead set about doing those things that we know can improve our industry, that is, *to first of all reaffirm our commitment to the promotion and sale of asbestos-cement pipe products.* Secondly, we must carefully review all opportunities to sell A/C into those markets which are presently using competing products, most of which use considerably more of our nation's scarce energy resources to produce than does A/C pipe. It is interesting to note that according to a recent study, these competing materials use up to eight times more energy to produce pipe than required to manufacture asbestos-cement pipe. Thirdly, we have a first rate product to sell that outperforms all competing materials, under a wider

range of conditions, and does so at a lower cost in most applications.

This premise must be sold to all city officials involved in the selection and purchase of water and sewer pipe and, to the degree that we successfully persuade them to use A/C pipe, we will have solved our own economic crisis.

The asbestos-cement pipe industry is well-staffed with knowledgeable and dedicated people that can do a professional job in making the necessary changes.

"Let's make it happen in 1976."



W. R. Blankenship is Vice President—Marketing, Pipe and Plastics Group, Certain-teed Products Corporation and President of the Association of Asbestos-Cement Pipe Producers.

### Middle East Budgets Billions for Sewer and Water

Government officials in Egypt, Iraq and Saudi Arabia recently announced multi-billion dollar plans for sewer, water and irrigation projects in those countries.

Ali A. Alizera, Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States, said that more than \$20 billion has been budgeted for water development in Saudi Arabia. The \$20 billion is but one segment of a master five-year plan that will total \$142 billion in expenditures.

In Cairo, the Ministry of Housing and Reconstruction recently discussed the development of a \$1 billion, 25-year plan for the country's sewer system. Twenty major sanitary engineering companies were at the meeting at which proposals were sought for a 15-month preliminary engineering program.

The Iraqi government has formally solicited bids on a \$40 million irrigation project. The construction site will be in the Lower Kahlis region and will

involve potable water, sewer and drainage lines as well as irrigation canals, power plants and associated buildings.

### Johns-Manville to Explore Asbestos in Sudan

The Johns-Manville Corporation has signed a joint venture agreement with the Gulf International Group of Kuwait and the Sudanese government for exploration and development rights to possible asbestos deposits in the Sudan.

Under the provisions of the agreement, J-M and Gulf International will explore for asbestos over approximately 3,861 square miles in the Blue Nile and Kassala provinces over an 18- to 36-month period. If the exploration is favorable, J-M would establish a joint venture for the mining and marketing of asbestos.

## In the Industry



The Flintkote Company Board of Directors has announced the election of Monte C. Carpenter as President and Chief Operating Officer.

Carpenter, who previously held the title of Executive Vice President, came to Flintkote in 1965 as General Manager of the Building Materials Division. In 1967, he was appointed Vice President and General Manager of the Building Products Group and in 1971 was elected to the company's Board of Directors. Before joining Flintkote, he was National Merchandising Manager, Building Materials for Montgomery Ward and Co. He is a native of Salt Lake City, Utah, where he attended the University of Utah.

## Meetings and Conventions

March 30-April 1, 1976

WWEMA Industrial Pollution Conference and Exposition  
Shamrock Hilton  
Houston, Texas

April 28-May 2, 1976

NUCA Annual Convention  
Washington, D.C.

### Association of Asbestos-Cement Pipe Producers

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President W. R. Blankenship (Certain-teed Products Corporation)

First Vice President: H. Taylor (The Flintkote Company)

Second Vice President: G. Barge (Atlas Asbestos Company)

Secretary: R. W. Smith (Johns-Manville Sales Corporation)

Treasurer: I. L. Taylor (Cement Asbestos Products Company)

Executive Director: Joseph C. Jackson

Associate Director and Editor: John F. Welch



Worth A. Springs



Michael J. Harper



James R. Plas

### Flintkote Lauds Top 1975 Salesmen

The Pipe Products Division of The Flintkote Company has named Worth A. Springs, Michael J. Harper and James R. Plas for the company's top sales awards in 1975.

Worth Springs was the recipient of the Division's top sales award, The President's Cup, for being "the outstanding territory manager for the 1975 sales year." The Cup is given annually to the Flintkote salesman that exhibits professional excellence as

measured by sales performance, customer relations, improvement over the previous year and management of time and expenses. He also received the "Top Dollar Award" for the highest sales volume in any Flintkote territory.

Mr. Springs is one of the "original" Flintkote salesmen having joined the Company in 1963 when it first diversified into the A/C pipe business. He lives in Charlotte, North Carolina and was formerly with the Grinnell Co.

The "Sale of the Year Award" went to Michael J. Harper in recognition of the outstanding Flintkote pipe sale in 1975.

The "Outstanding Improvement Award" was given to James Plas for the most significant improvement in sales over the previous year.

Springs, Harper and Plas also received "Mr. Flintite® Awards" for attaining 100% or more of their 1975 sales quotas.

### Uncle Sam's 1977 Budget for Water and Sewer

The Environmental Protection Agency is once again looking for the lion's share of federal dollars for Fiscal Year 1977 water and sewer works construction. EPA Administrator Russell Train submitted a \$718.2 million operating budget, \$53 million less than the FY 1976 budget. No new funds were requested for the Construction Grants Program since the \$9.6 billion in unobligated funds should be sufficient to meet anticipated needs through September, 1977.

EPA's Office of Water Supply significantly increased its budget from \$32.5 million in 1976 to \$42.78 million in 1977. Twenty percent of this figure will be available as grants to assist states in assuming "primacy" for safe drinking water programs.

The Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) budget for 1977 presently makes no provision for rural water and waste disposal grants. Approximately \$250 million was budgeted for this activity in FY 1976 and a \$125 million cut is pending in Congress.

### Safe Drinking Water—A Tough Act to Follow? (Continued from p. 1)

#### MCL's

The Regulations establish "maximum contaminant levels" (MCL's) for bacteria, turbidity, radiation and a number of organic and inorganic chemicals. The MCL's are based on an assumed consumption of two liters of water per day. EPA's justification for using the two-liter figure was that it represented an "above average" water or water-based intake and thus provided a satisfactory factor of safety.

Safety factors applied to the MCL's are not uniform, but are set on the basis of knowledge and experience with the various contaminants.

In drafting SDWA, Congress made it clear that "drinking water regulations are intended to be met at the consumer's tap." The one proviso to this is that a public water system cannot be held responsible for contamination which may be the fault of the consumer. The final definition of MCL, therefore, provides that "Contaminants added to the water under the control of the user, except those resulting from the corrosion of piping and plumbing as a result of water quality, are excluded..."

#### Monitoring

The Regulations require that all public water systems initiate a two-step

monitoring program: (1) routine monitoring to insure MCL's are not exceeded and (2) non-compliance monitoring for cases in which the finished water exceeds one or more MCL. Monitoring frequencies vary according to the size of the population served, so as not to unduly burden small systems. They vary from daily tests for turbidity to annual sampling for inorganic chemicals.

In the event a system does not comply with the drinking water standards or perform proper monitoring, the public must be informed. In such cases, the supplier must notify persons served by the system by (1) written notice accompanying the water bill, (2) by publication for not less than 3 consecutive days in the local newspaper and (3) by furnishing a copy of the notice to local radio and television stations. The appropriate regulatory authority (either EPA or the state) must also be notified.

#### Enforcement

Primary responsibility for enforcing the standards when they become effective rests with the State government. This is commonly referred to as "primacy." States must adopt and

(Continued on page 4)

### His Honor . . . The Typical Mayor (contd. from pg. 1)

be purely semantical, however, as a large percentage of mayors previously held positions as city councilmen. The fact that the "typical mayor" has been in office for 4.6 years seems to suggest that few are re-elected. Whether this is by choice or political chance is uncertain. The mayors that responded to the NLC Survey were rather guarded in their hopes about re-election. Only 31% actually planned to run for re-election. The remaining 69% were undecided (38.2%), definitely not running (28.9%) or just did not answer (1.9%).

About 78% of the country's mayors are part-time officials and their average annual salary of \$3,000-\$4,000 reflects that fact. Those salary levels, incidentally, have not been changed in over five years. As either a businessman (46.6%) or a professional (15.8%) however, the mayor earns approximately \$20,000 from private employment.

The "part-time" tag on the mayor's title can appropriately be called a misnomer. The mayor of a city with a population of 10,000-25,000, devotes about 21.5 hours a week to official duties. That figure more than doubles to 50.5 hours for mayors of cities over 100,000 population. And remember that these hours are above and beyond their full-time private occupations.

### Councilmen

In many respects, the profile of the "typical councilman" is strikingly similar to that of the "typical mayor." He too is a white male in his forties (37.5%) or fifties (27.3%). As a group, however, councilmen are younger . . . 21.1% are under 40 as compared to 13.5% in the mayoral category. Educational profiles are almost identical with the exception that councilmen hold more graduate school degrees (26.8% versus 15.6% for the mayors).

The "typical councilman" was elected at large on a non-partisan ticket to a four-year, "part-time" term (94.3%) for generally the same altruistic reasons as the mayor. His salary ranges from \$500-3,000 and as a businessman or professional, he earns \$15,000-\$20,000 per year. He spends from 12.3 hours per week (10,000-25,000 city population) to 40.3 hours per week (over 100,000 population) in the pursuit of municipal responsibilities.

Feminism is becoming a factor, albeit a small one, in both elected positions. Women mayors account for only 3.1% of the nation's total while they constitute 8.8% of the total "councilpersons."

### The Frustrations

Paltry pay and a "part-time" job that isn't, can and do produce bona fide

frustrations in mayors and councilmen. The leading frustration, mentioned by 42.9% of all respondents, was excessive time spent away from their families. This was followed by the long hours (37.4%) and "the information glut," i.e. "too much paper to wade through to make decisions."

When asked what they thought to be the most effective means to receive new information/ideas relating to government, they responded in this way:

| Means                      | Mayors | Councilmen |
|----------------------------|--------|------------|
| Conferences                | 61.5%  | 55.3%      |
| Presentation by city staff | 32.0   | 40.0       |
| Magazines                  | 20.2   | 30.3       |
| Training courses           | 22.7   | 25.0       |
| Citizen or civic groups    | 13.9   | 20.3       |

The NLC respondents also named excessive time away from business, low public salary, too many meetings and late night calls as other major sources of irritation in their jobs.

What about citizens' complaints? Out of 172 frequent complaints to mayors, dog and other pet control problems led the list at 60.7%. Traffic control problems was second (40.7%) and rezoning third (30.1%). Complaints about sewer service ranked sixth and water service eleventh. Both mayors and councilmen most frequently passed "citizen beefs" along to the appropriate city department head (51%) or the City Manager (41.6%).

### The Future

Mayors and councilmen are concerned, perhaps justifiably, about the future of municipal government. On a personal level, they want the best for their cities and as a group are dedicated to putting forth their best effort even though most are part-time officials and have inadequate office space, staffs and/or budgets.

On the political level, inter-governmental relations are becoming more and more complex. The power base is shifting away from the city towards larger government at the county, region, state and federal levels. Many of the officials who participated in the NLC Survey felt that the future of city government is at a crossroad of challenge and responsibility. One councilman summed it up: "City government can become the principal deliverer of social and public services and can be the principal innovator and experimenter. City officials will have to devote more time and develop greater expertise to meet new demands."

### Safe Drinking Water (contd. from pg.3)

demonstrate the ability to enforce standards at least as stringent as the

National standards. If they do not qualify for primacy, enforcement responsibility rests with EPA.

### Asbestos and Organics

In its prefacing comments to the Regulations, EPA expressed "concern" about asbestos in drinking water. An interagency comment noted the need for at least a monitoring requirement for asbestos. However, EPA countered that "for the moment" they lacked sufficient evidence regarding analytical methods, health effects or occurrence in the environment to establish MCL's.

In taking this stance, EPA referenced the \$16 million of ongoing studies on asbestos health effects and epidemiology (See *PIPE REPORT*, Vol I, No. 1 for details.) and concluded by saying criteria for establishing limits would be defined "as quickly as possible."

For similar reasons, the Regulations do not contain MCL's for organic chemicals other than six pesticides. A \$5 million research effort to identify source, distribution and health effects is under way. Compounds selected for inclusion in a nationwide "Organics Monitoring Program" include PCB's, benzene, vinyl chloride, carbon tetrachloride and 18 others.

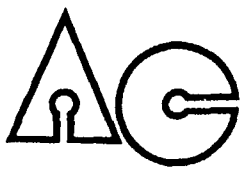
### Economic Impact

EPA estimates the total capital investment required for water systems to comply with these regulations will be \$1.1 to \$1.8 billion over a 5-year period. Systems serving 10,000 or more people will pass on an annual *per capita* treatment cost ranging from \$1 for disinfection and lead control to \$15-\$35 for turbidity and heavy metal removal. Generally speaking, treatment will be responsible for higher cost increases than monitoring.

The economic impact on the investor-owned and smaller water systems will be significant. The water bill for a household in the smallest systems may increase between \$10 and \$14 per month.

An EPA economic analysis predicts that the Interim Regulations will increase jobs (13,000-27,000 nationwide), stimulate new construction for treatment and distribution facilities and raise the demand for disinfectant/coagulant chemicals. Further, we are told "An informed public will be able to see that such costs are justified by the benefits to be gained."

Will the increased costs stimulate the economy and tangibly benefit public health? Or will they pay for administrative overhead and red tape? Hackneyed as it may sound, "only time will tell."



# PIPE REPORT

A/C Pipe Producers Association

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November 1975

Volume 1, Number 1

## 1976—The Care and Feeding of A Recovery

The event was the 36th Building Products Executive Conference and a record-setting crowd packed into Washington's Statler Hilton to hear McGraw-Hill Chief Economist, George A. Christie, deliver the 1976 Dodge/Sweet's Construction Outlook. There were no "good news—bad news" jokes although all the elements were there.

The good news was that the eighteen-month downward slide in construction activity has "bottomed out" and a positive turnaround has begun. The bad news was that the recovery appears to be a fragile one and in Christie's words "... without proper care and feeding, it could collapse."

The overall tone of the predictions, however, was optimistic. In comparing post-recession 1971 with post-recession 1976, Christie carefully noted the Dodge Index of Construction Contracts is presently at the same phase in the upswing cycle as it was in mid-1970. Thus, "... industry is again in the position to catch the construction market in a strong rebound."

Whether or not the 1975 upturn will be the harbinger of peak construction for 1976-77 that 1970 was for 1971-73, remains to be seen. While historically similar, today's outcome may differ for several reasons. Firstly, the downward construction cycle of 1970 ran for approximately three quarters, while the '75 downturn went for six. Secondly, the peak to trough decline in 1970 was about 25% in real terms. The 1975 decline was more than 40%. Thirdly, the current cycle has been and will continue to be affected by the "energy crisis."

Lastly and most importantly, President Ford's national economic policy will have far-ranging implications on the extent and rate of recovery. The Administration's primary concern has been in fighting inflation, not recession. Unfortunately, "tight money" follows on the coattails of such anti-inflation strategy. Christie commented that "... unless there is some relaxation of present monetary tightness, much of the potential for expansion of the construction industry in the year or two ahead will not be realized."

Simply stated, construction cannot proceed without capital.

But it is a political fact, not an economic one, that may well dictate stimulation of the economy... 1976 is an election year and politicians may not want to go before the voters holding the proverbial empty bag.

*Continued on Page 4*

## AACPP to Exhibit in Miami

Following in the footsteps of 1974's record turnout, the A/C Pipe Producers Association will again exhibit at the 1975 Annual Congress of Cities Exposition in Miami, November 30-December 2, 1975. The Exposition is sponsored by the National League of Cities, the "national action arm of the nation's cities." Its 15,000 members include state municipal leagues, cities with a population of over 30,000, the ten largest cities in each state and all state capitals.



A major objective of NLC is to assist policy leaders—mayors, councilmen, city managers and engineers—to do their jobs better and more efficiently. Last year a post-exhibition survey showed that 95% of the convention delegates attended the exhibit hall and 70% visited three or more times. Furthermore, two-thirds of the municipal officials actually followed up by forwarding information or recommending purchases to others in city hall.

*Continued on Page 4*

## Asbestos in Water—Where Are We?

Though less publicized in 1975 than in 1974, the asbestos in drinking water question continues to be a focal point for Association activity. The absence of conclusive data to prove or disprove the carcinogenicity of ingested asbestos still fans the flames of the controversy.

But AACPP, in liaison with the federal regulatory community, is taking tangible, positive steps towards resolution of the problem. Let's review exactly what is being done.

### EPA Pipe Test Loop

One of the recommendations to come out of the AWWA "Study of the Problem of Asbestos in Water," underwritten by AACPP, was to determine how much, if any, asbestos fiber was added to water as it passed through A/C pipe. In early 1975, the Environmental Protection Agency Laboratory in Cincinnati began a controlled experiment to determine the effects of water aggressiveness, velocity and elapsed time on the release of asbestos from A/C pipe. Through two separate 90-foot loops of 4- and 6-inch CL 150 A/C pipe, pre-filtered water of known pH and hardness is being circulated at 3.8 feet per second, 2.6 miles per hour, 433 miles per week.

Water is being intermittently sampled and analyzed by electron microscopy to determine if asbestos fibers are released. If so, quantity and fiber size distribution by length and type are determined. After each six month run, the pipe is tapped to see if this causes a large release of fibers. As presently planned, the study will run 54 months, although it could be shortened if samples show no change.

The startup of the loop provided an interesting anecdote when the first highly aggressive water attacked all the metallic components of the system and plated them out on the interior walls of the A/C pipe. The unspoken message in this case was eminently clear: such a water is too aggressive for any distribution system and the

*Continued on Page 3*

## VIEWPOINT

### Confidence, Cannibalism and Cast Iron

In a matter of days the A/C Pipe Producers Association will convene its regular Fall Meeting. If the meeting runs true to form, there will be much discussion and speculation about what 1976 holds in store for the industry. There is, of course, the economy: *Will construction activity rebound in the second quarter as predicted?* Then too, there is the continuing asbestos and health controversy: *Is progress being made in resolving the ingestion question?* Also, there is the persistent request for "high industry visibility": *When will the Association mount a hardhitting promotional campaign?* Other agenda topics range from recent court interpretations of restrictive specifications and the renewed importance of salesmanship, to better defining what the real role of the Association should be and how its activities can be of maximum benefit to the industry as a whole.

Often overlooked in the midst of the chaos created by immediate problems, but of no less concern, is the real and often unspoken need to restore industry's confidence . . . confidence in itself, its people, its product, its future. The sackcloth and ashes attitude which shrouds today's real issues and saps both individual and corporate initiative must be dispelled . . . can be dispelled. The remedy is not all that difficult: one dose of pride in past accomplishments and continuing doses of increased sales and profits.

Whatever else may come out of the meeting deliberations, one fact ought

to be quite clear: *1976 will be a pivotal year for the industry.* Pivotal in the truest sense. A turnabout year . . . for the economy, the health issue, the acuity of the industry, the effectiveness of the Association. It must be a year which is characterized by a total industry commitment, not partisan disinterest, nor shortsighted cannibalism. A year when the admonition "lead, follow, or get the hell out of the way" must be the way of doing business, not just an off the cuff quip. A year when leadership must not be exercised by demand and command, but distinguished by a universal attitude of *what can I do to help?* . . . at all levels of management, in all companies.

The realities of the marketplace make one other fact equally evident. Even if the economy recovered overnight and the health issue was resolved the following day, industry's potential for growth, both over the short and the long run, depends primarily on one factor: its ability to seriously penetrate competitive pipe markets, ipso facto cast iron. For as Jack McDuff so succinctly put it at the Association's Annual Meeting . . . "They are the real enemy." Given the present fiscal climate in municipalities in the United States, there has never been a more opportune time to put "price and pride together again."

In the final analysis all of the fancy rhetoric in the world will never sell a foot of pipe. Aggressive, knowledgeable, enthusiastic salesmanship will!

### Connecticut, New York Fund Public Works Projects

New York and Connecticut have initiated major environmental public works programs to spur employment in the hard-hit building and construction trades.

The \$2.7 billion effort in New York, funded from the Pure Waters and Environmental Quality Bond Issues plus federal water pollution allotments, will result in construction of 202 sewerage projects during the next five years. Under the program, 114 sewage treatment plants and 91 interceptor systems will be constructed. By the end of 1975, the state would initiate \$1.1 billion in new project contracts

while \$1.6 billion would be earmarked for 1976.

On a somewhat smaller scale, \$15 million in bond funds was provided by the Connecticut Legislature. The funds would be used for more broad-based public works such as road repair and park improvement, as well as the construction or repair of public sewers. Labor market areas with 7% or more unemployment (March, 1975) would be eligible. The Commissioners of Commerce and Labor will select projects from candidates submitted no later than October 1, 1975.

## In the Industry

Atlas Asbestos Company President George Barge announced the appointment of Nelson Bain as Vice President of Marketing.

Mr. Bain joined Atlas in 1970 and was previously the company's General Sales Manager. Prior to joining Atlas, he was President of Asbestos Erectors of Canada Limited. Mr. Bain succeeds Leonard Falle who as Vice President will assume other corporate responsibilities.

Atlas operates plants in Montreal and Mission, British Columbia, and produces asbestos-cement water pipe, sewer pipe and building materials as well as high temperature insulation and reinforced plastic sheeting.

## Meetings and Conventions

### November 4-5, 1975

AACPP Fall Meeting  
Twin Bridges Marriott  
Washington, D.C.

### November 4-7, 1975

ASCE National Convention and Exhibition  
Denver Hilton Hotel  
Denver, Colorado

### November 30-December 2, 1975

Annual Congress of Cities and Exposition  
Hotel Fontainebleau  
Miami Beach, Florida

### December 4-5, 1975

Pollution Engineering and Equipment Exposition and Conference  
International Hotel  
Los Angeles, California

### December 7-9, 1975

AWWA Water Quality Technology Conference  
Sheraton Biltmore Hotel  
Atlanta, Georgia

### March 30-April 1, 1976

WWEMA Industrial Pollution Conference and Exposition  
Shamrock Hilton  
Houston, Texas

### April 28-May 2, 1976

NUCA Annual Convention  
Washington, D.C.

### Association of Asbestos-Cement Pipe Producers

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1875 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

President: W. R. Blankenship (Certain-teed Products Corporation)

Vice President: H. Taylor (The Flintkote Company)

Secretary: R. W. Smith (Johns-Manville Sales Corporation)

Treasurer: I. L. Taylor (Cement Asbestos Products Company)

Executive Director: Joseph C. Jackson

Associate Director and Editor: John F. Welch



Members of AACPP's Sewer Pipe Task Group listen to Dr. Reynold Watkins (r.) explain the operation of a soil load cell. Shown are (l. to r.) Frank Duffy (Flintkote), Bill Perrell (CAPCO), Ed Spinzig (Johns-Manville), Al Leff (Certain-teed).

## Sewer Pipe Research Nears Completion

Utah State University, under a grant from the A/C Pipe Producers Association, is completing research on the structural performance of buried asbestos-cement pipe. The test program, conducted by Dr. Reynold Watkins and Dr. Al Moser of the Engineering Experiment Station, will evaluate load factors as a function of A/C pipe

stiffness and bedding conditions.

Several classes and diameters of A/C non-pressure pipe were tested to failure in "soil load cell" and actual embankment conditions to substantiate performance trends discovered in previous research. The "soil load cell" reproduces a trench burial condition by applying earth loads hydraulic

ically to the buried pipe.

The results of the Utah State work will be evaluated by AACPP's Sewer Pipe Task Group chaired by Mr. Al Leff of Certain-teed Products Corporation. Other members include Frank Duffy (Flintkote), Bill Perrell (CAPCO), Ed Spinzig (Johns-Manville) and Hugh Fraser (Canadian Johns-Manville).

### Asbestos (contd. from pg. 1)

real answer is, therefore, in treatment. In selecting and classifying the nine test waters, EPA utilized the Modified Langlier Index method developed by AACPP.

The pipe loop study is well underway and the Association hopes to be able to report soon on interim results.

In another phase of the project, EPA is sampling cities where source waters low in asbestos are distributed through A/C pipe prior to use. Analyses of the source and tap waters will demonstrate if fiber content increases as it passes through the pipe. Sample sites include cities in Florida, Connecticut, Washington, Texas and Ohio. Preliminary results indicate that for waters where the Modified Langlier Indices falls within the guidelines recommended by the industry and now included in AWWA Specifications C-400 and C-402, asbestos fiber contribution is "not statistically significant" or "below detectable limits."

### Nationwide Asbestos Sampling Program

A nationwide sampling program, scheduled for 1976 completion, is also in progress to determine the environmental background levels of asbestos resulting from discharge sources. Over sixty sites, including major city water supplies, natural sites of asbestos rock formations, asbestos mining

and manufacturing operations, are being sampled and analyzed for asbestos fiber content.

### NIEHS Feeding Study

In an effort to define the carcinogenicity of orally ingested asbestos, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) recently contracted with Hazleton Laboratories of Vienna, Virginia, and Illinois Institute of Technology to conduct an extensive four-year feeding study. For a lifetime, thousands of rats and hamsters will be fed asbestos. The incidence of tumors will then be compared against a control group and third group fed a known carcinogen.

Whether or not this study will truly answer the asbestos ingestion question remains to be seen. Dr. Paul Kotin, Chairman of AACPP's Medical Advisory Committee, points out that the project involves a single, high dose level of asbestos. Such an approach ignores what is called a "dose-response relationship"—that is, how much orally ingested asbestos is required to induce a tumor: a boxcar or a teaspoon? The Association is of the opinion that NIEHS is taking the boxcar approach and the multi-million dollar research may well raise more questions than it answers. Nonetheless, even at the high ingestion levels

planned, the possibility exists that the results will be negative.

### EPA Epidemiology Study

With information supplied by AACPP, its member companies and salesmen, EPA's Water Supply Research Laboratory in Cincinnati is researching the incidence and distribution of gastrointestinal (GI) cancers in the State of Connecticut which was chosen for its excellent "tumor registry." The study will compare cancer frequency in cities using A/C distribution systems versus those without A/C.

It is obvious that any one or all of these studies could have significant impact on the A/C pipe industry. However altruistic it may sound, the A/C Pipe Industry through AACPP is firmly committed to governmental cooperation and candor. Unlike our cities, it is our belief that it is more important to supply the answer, than to just raise the question.



## 1976—The Care and Feeding of A Recovery (contd. from pg. 1)

### Residential Building

Like other recoveries, the 1975 turnaround started with an increase in single family housing starts. By the Third Quarter, one-family starts were at an annualized 900,000 unit mark. Further growth appears to hinge on the continued availability of mortgage money in the face of a late 1975-early 1976 "credit crunch."

Multi-family housing starts hit bottom in February and have been stagnant since. However, a three to six month lag between recovery in one-family construction and apartment building is "normal." Compared with the 1970 apartment boom, construction costs have increased 50%, short-term interest rates 50%, and long-term rates 30%. These and a 60% boost in fuel and electricity rates weighed against a 25% increase in rental rates, obviously tilt the profitability scales in an unfavorable direction.

Christie concluded that 1976 residential building would be approximately 1,025,000 single-family homes and 500,000 apartments. This total will not match in numbers the 2.1 million mark of 1971, but will cost 15% more.

### Non-building Construction

"Energy" and "public works" were the two big words in non-building construction statistics. \$2 billion of Trans-Alaska Pipeline construction and \$6 billion worth of electric power plant contracts made 1975 a banner year for utilities.

Though stimulated by the release of several billion dollars of Nixon-impounded pollution control funds, the full potential of sewer and water facilities construction has not been realized, Christie noted. In most states, the complex EPA planning and bidding procedures have been hurdled and "strong use in contracting is bound to follow" in 1976.

### 1976 In A Nutshell

Christie summarized by saying that the 1975 turnaround is underway and will accelerate as the economy reacts and industry goes through a "brief period of inventory build-up." The recovery may lag somewhat in the last quarter of 1975 and the first quarter of 1976. This "flat spot," the result of completed inventory adjustment and tight money/high interest, should be followed by a sound 15% increase in overall construction activity in 1976.

And McGraw-Hill isn't the only one optimistic about next year. Engineering News Record prognostications see an 18% increase in construction activity.

### What About Pipe?

McGraw-Hill estimates that the value of 1975 sewer and water construction contracts will be \$6.7 billion. This is a preliminary estimate based on eight months of actual figures and four months predicted. The 1976 forecast is \$7.5 billion, a 12% increase over 1975. More housing starts, the continued availability of Federal Water Pollution Control Act and Safe Drinking Water Act funds and a growing confidence that the recession is behind us all indicate that 1976 will be somewhat better than 1975. Penetration of competitive pipe markets, as much as the overall economic/construction climate, may well dictate whether or not 1976 will be a banner year... or just a modest one.

### Miami (contd. from pg. 1)

The AACPP Exhibit received considerable attention in 1974 and an unprecedented amount of literature was distributed. Since less than 3% of the city officials at NLC attended other public works or water conventions, the Association feels strongly that participation in the Annual Congress of Cities can create an "A/C awareness" in the minds of the important municipal decision makers... the decision makers that answer to the taxpayer... the decision makers that face fiscal constraints... the decision makers that should need A/C pipe.

### Fiber Hike Planned

In the wake of a 40% wage settlement ending a seven-month strike in the asbestos mining industry, several Canadian asbestos producers announced increases in the price of asbestos fiber.

Canadian Johns-Manville Co., Asbestos Corporation, Lake Asbestos of Quebec, Ltd., United Asbestos Corp. and Cassier Asbestos Corp. have either put into effect or are considering 7-15% price increases by the first of the year. The move is considered by many as a "catch-up" to higher prices previously set by Canadian asbestos firms who were not affected by the strike.

The Canadian Anti-inflation Board said that the price hike will be studied to insure that they comply with the government's price guidelines. If not, the companies could be forced to roll back the increases.

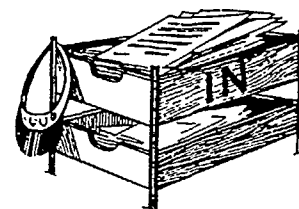
## OSHA Proposes New Asbestos Standard

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has proposed that the standard for occupational exposure to asbestos be lowered to 0.5 fibers/cubic centimeter for an 8-hour time weighted average. The present standard is 5 fibers/cc, time weighted average. A reduction to 2 fibers/cc would have become effective July 1, 1976.

The proposed standard would apply to all workplaces where occupational exposure to asbestos is present except the construction industry for which a separate revision will be promulgated. The Association is reviewing the proposed regulations and considering what courses of action to take before the deadline for comments.

## Cities Survey Completed

The Association, with the cooperation of its member companies, has finally completed its survey of U.S. cities whose population exceeds 1,000 which specify, purchase or have in service A/C water pipe. The survey results will be used to launch a highly visible promotional campaign in early 1976. In addition, a cities directory is being prepared for distribution to member company sales personnel. The directory will include the complete survey results and be accompanied by interpretive analyses. Target date for completion of the directory is January 1, 1976.



### Letters to the Editor

Let us hear from you! The AACPP Staff will welcome your suggestions and constructive criticism on the content, impact and timeliness of the PIPE REPORT.