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Hayes Sewerage Plan Described in Detail

Commission Announces Its Plans, Which Provide for Septic Tanks and Aerating Beds at Masonville—Siphon to Cross Near Long Bridge—Oyster Industry Saved.

Baltimore's Sewerage will not be Dumped into Chesapeake Bay.

Maryland's Oyster Industry will Escape the Blight of Germs and Microbes and Bacteria.

Thus it has been ordained by the mayor and his sewerage commission, and thus the alarm of those bay county legislators who feared for the luscious—and profitable—bivalve would fade into nothingness.

To the mayor yesterday the special committee of municipal engineers submitted the detailed plans upon which they based their estimate of \$12,000,000. If the septic method, which they propose to try, is successful in practice, the ultimate cost will be but \$8,000,000—less than one-half the original estimate of the late sewerage commission.

The plans provide for the disposal of 95,000,000 gallons of drainage a day. This, upon an estimated increase of the city's population to 750,000, is 125 gallons a day per capita.

It is proposed, however, to lay main sewers large enough to accommodate the needs of 1,000,000 people. From all sections of the city branch sewers will flow into these. As first laid, they will be designed to take care of the present population. As the number of inhabitants of the city increases the branches will be extended.

The septic tanks for the treatment of the sewage will be located at Masonville, Anne Arundel County, near the old Quarantine grounds. There the waste matter siphoned across the river will be fermented and aerated. After it has passed through the tanks it may be dumped into the river without injury to the public health.

The sewage will be conducted across the river through a giant siphon eastward of the Long Bridge. That coming from the higher parts of the city will flow to the tanks by gravity; that coming from the low lying sections will be conducted to the pumping station, to be erected at Stockholm and Leadenhall streets where it will be forced across the river by giant pumps. There will be six of these pumps, two of 3,000,000 gallons capacity and four of 25,000,000 gallons. They will be of 3000 horse power, and will be in operation day and night.

The aseptic method depends upon the pugnacity of the festive microbe. As the sewage flows into the tank poisonous microbes will be developed, and these will reduce the solid matter to liquidity. After 24 hours' fermentation the sewage will flow into the aerating beds, where the poisonous microbes will be benevolently assimilated by their harmless brethren. Then the oxygen of the air will ring down the curtain upon the tragely by oxidizing all of the microbes, good and bad alike, and the sewage will flow into the river.

So far the septic method has not been tried on a large scale, but the municipal engineers think there is no doubt of its success. In several European cities, where dye works refuse entered the sewers, the chemicals blocked the fermentation process. In Baltimore, however, no chemicals will flow into the sewers.

Should the aseptic method, nevertheless, prove wanting in practicability, there will be no difficulty, for the plans adopted contemplate, in that event, an extension of the drains to Glen Burnie, Anne Arundel county, where filtration beds will be established. The experimental septic tank will cost only \$5000. If it is a success, the extension to Glen Burnie will not be necessary, and, in consequence, more than \$4,000,000 will be saved.