

*Water Resources*

sions that they are polluted are unscientific. In 1954, Moose Jaw city council had on its books a bylaw prohibiting the pollution of streams or rivers of the area. Unfortunately, no one enforced the bylaw. It is pointless having bylaws that are not enforced. I was as guilty as anyone for not making sure that our anti-pollution bylaws were enforced because at one time I was a member of city council. Unfortunately, I was as ignorant as the next man about the extent of our pollution. This shows how necessary it is for us to have strong federal laws if we are to control pollution. At the same time, I hope we shall not be accused of being unscientific if we say that evil smelling waters are polluted. Municipal authorities and those involved with pollution matters must make their views known, and we must therefore make certain that the members making up the committee to study this bill will not adopt an arrogant attitude and say that allegations of pollution are not being substantiated with scientific evidence.

According to the bill, it seems that the Governor in Council alone will decide whether the minister has made all responsible efforts to reach agreement with the provinces in this area. I do not think the Governor in Council alone should have the right to make this decision. I ask, after it has established a treatment plant in a designated water quality management area, how will the federal government collect revenues with respect to that?

For the last couple of years, the federal government has only talked about pollution but done nothing concrete. Its approach to the problem is typified by saying it wants to help but that Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation has no money available for pollution control purposes. We need water quality standards in Canada to apply especially to interprovincial waters. The federal government measures quantities of water throughout Canada; why could it not, by using the same staff and facilities, measure the quality of those same waters? Prairie Farm Rehabilitation engineers, who are the people on the spot in many instances, could do useful work in measuring water quality.

Replying to motion for papers No. 51, which I believe was in the name of the hon. member for Kootenay West (Mr. Harding), the Minister of National Health and Welfare indicated that there are a certain number of municipalities which have done absolutely nothing to control the pollution of their waters. On the one hand, the government cut

the allotment in its 1969 budget for pollution control and, on the other, the minister has been going around the country expounding the philosophy that we must control pollution. Some municipalities do not even have adequate sewer or lagoon facilities. A few have lagoon treatment systems. Municipalities in need have asked the federal government for assistance, but they have been told there is no money. Question No. 107 on the Order Paper is in the name of the hon. member for Kootenay West. It asks whether the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources has announced that incentives for the construction of municipal sewage plants exist under the National Housing Act. Part 7 of the question asks, "If so, which cities and municipalities have been informed of this decision?" As I look at the list before me, I see listed municipalities in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Saskatchewan, etc.

• (4:50 p.m.)

As I go down the list, there are many, many areas, including British Columbia, which intended doing something but which have been told by this government, sorry, there just is no money. The government makes the pretence of telling the people of these provinces that really they are prepared to help with pollution control, but there is no money. The provinces and municipalities cannot do this alone. They alone were not responsible for this pollution. There is no other way of looking at it than from the standpoint that they must receive assistance from the federal government if we expect to accomplish anything.

I noticed that the comments I received in one of the questionnaires I sent out could apply to the entire nation. A letter from Davidson, Saskatchewan, refers to the DDT in the tissues of all Canadians. In fact, there is more DDT here than is permitted in animals slaughtered for human consumption. DDT comes into the over-all picture of pollution, but not necessarily too strongly in the Canada water act.

Another comment I wish to put on record is from a gentleman in Moose Jaw. He says:

—inflation and pollution are closely related. They have their roots in the profit system.

I think everyone in this House realizes that these people who are making the profits must also be obligated to erase completely the pollution we have in our environment. I now wish to put on the record a few comments with regard to pollution generally. The questions asked these people were, what action