

This is a copy of the letter that the Alberta Progressive Conservative MLAs are sending out in reply to STOP petitions. It is, however, personally addressed when sent out and personally signed.



202 Legislative Building,
Edmonton 6, Alberta.

Thank you for your interest in writing to us expressing your concern about pollution.

The Progressive Conservative Party policy may be summarized as follows:

1. We consider it vital that air, water, and soil pollution be immediately brought under regulation and control in Alberta.
2. We consider that those who are responsible for pollution should pay for the cost of its removal or cleanup.
3. We consider the preservation of our water, air, and land resources as a matter of urgent Provincial and National priority.
4. We will support any Provincial and Federal initiatives in pollution control that meet our policy requirements.

We are doing everything we can to implement this policy in the Province of Alberta. We have introduced a Bill in the Alberta Legislature to control Air and Water pollution in Alberta. This is just one way in which we have expressed our vital concern in this field.

Sincerely,

No more patience

by Winston Gereluk

I have just finished reading a copy of G. Joe's letter advising me to ask my children's grandparents before signing any more petitions.

It's a real gas! It would be too easy to criticize the MLA's writing style, or his childlike argumentation, but perhaps that's all the poor fellow was capable of.

The really wonderful thing about Social Credit politicians is that they keep doing to themselves what I would like to do for them, more effectively than I ever could. By writing a few more letters like that last one, they should succeed in wiping themselves off the slate completely. (I wonder if Radstaak consulted with his mother before writing this one.)

Of course the petition shouldn't have read 'demand'—the wording should have been much stronger in order to get results. It should also have been more pointed and simple, judging from the quality of the MLA's letter.

The irony is that we are forced to elect politicians like Mr. Radstaak to do those things for us that we can only get done as a collectivity (a bad word in Alberta). Pollution control is one of those tasks. To tell us that this is a task for individuals is to very simply ignore that it is big industry that plays the biggest part in the desecration of the environment, and that no individual can tell big industry what to do.

Barring a millennial surge by the people (something our politicians wouldn't survive) only government intervention can force big industry to 'clean up', or prevent the unnecessary manufacturing that is kept alive by building-in obsolescence and creating false needs through depth advertising.

I am sure that Mr. Radstaak is

aware of the above, and yet he had the audacity to tell us that we should request, not demand government intervention. All right, how's this? "I request an end to the government-supervised murder of the natural beauty of Alberta by large corporations (like Calgary Power). I request a stop to the rape of the National Parks, the Red Deer River, the Big Horn Valley, Lake Wabamun, the cities of Calgary and Edmonton, and the surrounding countryside."

Mr. Radstaak is just being true to his party in making light of the pollution problem. It's mind-boggling to think that maybe he doesn't know how serious the whole thing has become. Perhaps he doesn't realize that many scientists have given us 30 years of life on this planet. After that we're all going to die, you, me, Social Credit politicians, the whole race. We're going to gasp for air and there won't be any, just toxic fumes, sewage, and broken beer bottles. And when that happens, there will be no heaven for most of us, least of all for devious politicians.

This Earth is all that we have, and many of us want to do something about saving it—only we aren't yet serious, because we're still at the stage of asking-requesting, when we should be taking stronger steps, the type that people in power understand.

In short, there is no reason for any more patience with politicians like Mr. Radstaak. In a world faced with the very real possibility of extinction due to pollution, he and his cohorts in government are threats to our survival because they chose to ignore or make light of those who express concern. Surely it's time to do something about them—I for one am ready.

And so is my mother.

An introduction: The premier says his party has no stand on STOP

Pollution, a word now long considered a platitude, has this week, in Edmonton at least, become an issue. For some time STOP, the Save Tomorrow, Oppose Pollution committee, has been soliciting signatures on petitions which read:

Dear sir:

I demand strict enforcement of existing pollution controls and immediate legislation to stop further pollution. Please reply.

This week, various petitioners received their replies.

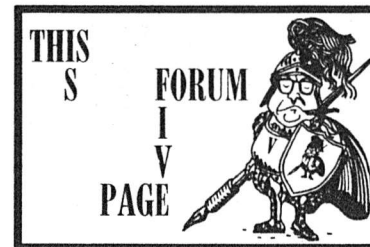
Those persons with Progressive Conservative MLAs received a personalized copy of the letter to the left, a letter which was responsible in attitude and the re-

sult of a proper policy caucus.

If, however, their MLA was G. Joe Radstaak they received a copy (like the one on the right)

by Jim Carter

of an impersonal letter. Premier Strom said Thursday of the letter, "He wrote the letter as an individual MLA. There is no Social Credit stand on the letter and we



have not yet come up with a form stand on the STOP petition. As to the premier's own stand added, "I appreciate the copy of the people on the subject (pollution) and don't condemn anyone for being concerned about it."

A note to anyone who like to personally communicate with MLA Radstaak in regard to pollution or any other important government topic: G. Joe Radstaak's phone number is 1131.

A note to all: G. Joe Radstaak's letter and the attached form the shape of "Gateway Golden Good Award" suitable for cutting and mounting. WEAR IT FOR GOOD HEALTH.

Politician's reply—"consult your parents" We have requested too long—now we demand

Dear Mr. Radstaak:

I am placing your letter and my reply to your letter in The Gateway in open form because I feel your views on this issue should be made known to your constituents.

I feel that I have been belittled and insulted by your letter. By it, you seem to imply that even though I am old enough to vote,

I am immature and incapable of making up my own mind on a public issue. You have, in fact, by suggesting that I consult my parents, relegated me to the status of a child.

Through conversations I have had with people about the campus, I have discovered that you have sent this same letter to professors of this university in your con-

stituency. Do you consider that well? I can only guess that you this form letter to anyone you on the cause of pollution question the use of the word "demand" in the petition. However, I feel people have been "requesting" for too long. It is time we demanded action before the problem becomes worse. In your letter you state that 64 per cent of air pollution is caused by cars, trucks, and buses. If this is the case, then why don't you introduce legislation making it mandatory for these vehicles to be equipped with emission control devices? You make the point that the fog and "smut" in the river valley is caused by the city power plant and incinerator, and then follow with two utterly irrelevant questions. No, the power plant does not have to close down, and we don't have to do without electricity. All that is required is proper control on the products being spewed out. In your insulting letter, I did not mention the names of the constituents who have decided to do other than Social Credit in



Natural oxygen supply diminishing—

Pollution is not only the smoke of industry, the exhaust of cars, the sewage of rivers but also the reduction in the level of oxygen in the atmosphere. It is reported that the levels of carbon dioxide is increasing and that plant life, the source of oxygen, can not keep up with replenishing oxygen.

The most important source of oxygen is the phyto-plankton, which produce 70 per cent of the oxygen. These floating plants of large water bodies do not re-

quire very much for their return. In culture they require the macronutrients; nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and sulphur; the micronutrients, and some vitamins. In natural conditions these are supplied by the environment. Temperature and light requirements are such that they can grow in almost any place, an example is that a few are found in the soil.

For any person wanting to grow these to reduce the carbon dioxide level in their home it

by Gerald Umbach

should be quite easy to do so. The only problems are that the supplies may become limited because of the poor exchange efficiency of the water surface that growth and population limit the effect of the culture.

But back to pollution. Microplants might be the end of the earth but man is