

*Water Resources*

tres. His point about sources of pollution may be correct but this does not mean that industrial pollution can be ignored, it must be curbed.

I can add my thanks to the editorial writer in the *Medicine Hat News* for stating a situation as it actually exists.

Quebec: Paul Allard, Quebec Natural Resources Minister, was critical yesterday of the federal government's announcement of a federal-provincial water clean-up campaign. Mr. Allard chided the government for what he said was its failure to consult with the provinces before announcing a proposed Canada Water Act.

Once again, we are back to the constitutional question. Here are some examples, Mr. Speaker, of provinces that are not concerned about pollution but only about political gain by opposing federal legislation, even though that federal legislation in my opinion is very weak and was only brought forth so that the feelings of the provinces would not be hurt. Surely, these provinces could look intelligently at the over-all situation and not try to put roadblocks in the way of pollution control measures brought in by the federal government. Hopefully, then, in committee we will be able to make amendments to this legislation, Bill C-144, so that it will really mean something and help the people of this nation.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I am quite sure it is a straight case of the government of this day looking at the over-all situation as elimination or survival. If any so-called constitutional legal experts attempt to use pollution to feather their nests then there can be only one answer, the tar and feather philosophy. Then, we will see how long they can survive when resembling a bird. We all know birds of a feather stick together. But the only place for opponents of the national pollution policy is at the end of a pipeline which is discharging untreated, contaminated effluent into our streams, rivers and lakes and they should be kept there long enough to know what pollution is all about. Unless we make these people realize what pollution means, then there is nothing we can possibly do about it.

We see that various governmental bodies are to be used to deal with pollution control. It is said that there will be a federal program co-ordinated by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources through an interdepartmental committee. It seems that the Department of Agriculture will not be involved in this matter and I hope that when the bill goes to committee, the views of the Department of Agriculture will be sought, because it can be most useful in over-all programs relating to pollution control. Also, I think the Minister of

[Mr. Skoberg.]

Finance, (Mr. Benson) Treasury Board and the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) himself ought to be drawn into these discussions. Unless those who hold the purse strings can be interested in a proposition for pollution control, no money for pollution control measures will be forthcoming. Although the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources (Mr. Greene) appears sincere in his desire to curb pollution, little has come from the Prime Minister's office on the subject, except pollution in the form of verbiage.

• (4:40 p.m.)

As I see it, the bill before us expounds a philosophy but will do little to correct the present situation. The Minister without Portfolio (Mr. Lang) representing Saskatoon-Humboldt and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, have asked members of the public to make representations to those responsible for pollution control. The public has been asked to participate in the discussions pertaining to this bill. There are many instances of people having tried to approach provincial or municipal governments on the subject of controlling pollution, but without success. In Moose Jaw, Mr. Gerry Hudson, first vice-president of the Moose Jaw and District Labour Council, made a survey of the incidents of pollution in the Moose Jaw area and presented his findings to council. Nothing was done about his report. Mr. Hudson and his assistants took photographs of surrounding waters and documented their findings. On November 18, 1969, they presented the findings to council in the hope that the matter would go to the provincial or federal governments. The newspaper report in my hand regarding this incident reads as follows:

Gerry Hudson, first vice president of the Moose Jaw and District Labor Council, attacked city council Monday for not acting on a labor council pollution brief.

The article continues. Answering an alderman who asked if someone could be accused of polluting something already polluted, Mr. Hudson expressed surprise and said:

'Surely, this could be characterized as the idiocy of the year'... 'The logic of the observation escapes us... an analogy to this might be—if a woman is raped once would it be pointless to accuse someone if she was raped a second time?'

In essence, this bill says that because our rivers and streams have been raped, they will therefore continue to be raped again, again and again. They will continue being polluted.

I hope no one will say that just because rivers and lakes are evil smelling, our conclu-