

newest smelter at Timmins, Ontario, now under construction, will have 97 per cent SO₂ removal.

By contrast, the United States is not only predicting significant increases in SO₂ and enormous increases in NO_x but is pursuing deliberate action to make sure it happens. I realize that my American colleague, Doug Costle, deplors this situation as much as I but he needs the support of the American people if he is to secure the authority needed to reverse this situation. We are so concerned about the seeming lack of awareness of the average American about acid rain that we are seriously considering handing leaflets on the problem to every tourist who enters our country from the United States. We have not yet chosen an appropriate theme. Perhaps it should be "come see our fish and forests before they fade to a memory".

Canada and the United States have committed themselves to developing an air-quality agreement designed to deal with this problem. I sense that it will be some time before any agreement with real bite can be signed, mainly because the legislative authorities needed in the United States to bring about rapid and major reductions in SO₂ and NO_x emissions appear to be lacking.

For that reason we are also pressing for an interim understanding which would obligate both the United States and Canada to use existing authorities to the full limit in an effort to bring about some improvement in emission-reduction while an agreement is being prepared.

Critics of early control action within Canada argue that there is no point in imposing expensive control requirements because the growth in U.S. emissions will simply occupy the space we are thereby vacating. That argument fails to recognize the geographic location of some of our major emitters and the relief which reductions obtained from them can offer some of our most sensitive areas. Nonetheless, there is enough truth in the argument for me to place equal importance on securing major reductions in U.S. emissions. Stated very bluntly, I see no reason why Canada's ecosystems — let me be blunter yet, Canada's people, tourist camp operators, fishing guides, commercial fishermen, loggers, other forest product workers, building owners and tenants and possibly our asthmatics or others with respiratory illnesses — should have to pay the price of keeping the electricity rates of those coal-producing middle-western states well below those now being paid along the United States eastern seaboard.

Some Canadians among us have spoken darkly about "environmental aggression" and I reject that phrase because it suggests a deliberate act designed to hurt another. There is no malice in the acid rain from the United States, nor I assure you in the much smaller amount of acid rain we send back. What we are experiencing is the result of a genuine lack of understanding of the consequences of what seemed like a reasonable cost-effective control mechanism — high stacks and dispersion. What we failed to do was to build into our equations the hidden cost, the damages being done to distant interests. We today understand the inappropriateness of such control mechanisms and I commend the United States for its control at source requirements in its new source performance standards for SO₂ emissions from thermal power plants. I would like