

*Water Resources*

floods and a considerable amount of pollution of lakes and rivers because the soil washed away in some sections.

I believe there should be a co-ordinated policy in respect of pollution, whether it be related to farming operations, lumbering operations or industrial operations. I think one reason we have done some of the things we have in respect of pollution in Canada is that we have sort of a "big thing" complex. This is particularly true in the United States. We have large acreage farms, big fields, and have a large erosion problem. We carry on lumbering operations by the use of large efficient units. We cut down our trees and when there is heavy rain or heavy snowfall in the winter, we have a large erosion problem. We have a large pollution problem which requires a large anti-pollution program. Perhaps a little more judgment should be used along the way. Much of Canada is not yet spoiled. Much of the country is still covered by forests and virgin sod. Surely we have benefited from our experience to the extent that we can save ourselves some expense in the future in respect of what we still have. I should like to see the clean air and water that we have preserved. I should like to see the oxygen and carbon dioxide in the lakes, rivers and oceans in and around Canada kept in proper balance. By using a little wisdom, we might at least contribute to our share of the total environment control on this planet.

• (3:40 p.m.)

I would like to make another comment in a slightly different area. I do not think it would be fair to industry, to municipalities or to anyone else who has to set up pollution control to say that overnight they must install in their plant for pollution control. I think they must be given an opportunity to adjust the prices of products to cover pollution control or waste disposal. A municipality must be given the opportunity to raise taxes or in other ways raise funds or to build facilities, and, within limits, we should accept this as being just and right. I think that the federal and provincial governments should be prepared to assist financially, whether by grants or by loans as the case may be. We might give aid through Central Mortgage and Housing or through some other means. I suggest that the present act is not adequate in this respect.

I think that fines—if that is the right term—should be imposed on those who pollute. How about putting the fine from a com-

pany or a municipality into a fund, and if that company or municipality installs pollution control or whatever is required in that area within a specified time they will get their money back. I do not think that a fine should be imposed as a punishment. This should be done to induce these people to build adequate pollution controls. I am sure that this is the purpose of the bill, so why not do something that will make it attractive for those involved to obey the law? This should be the intent of the bill. Let us do something about improving our environment and let us do something practical to encourage these companies or municipalities to make this move now.

I was in the Arctic this summer and I noticed around the Resolute air base the remnants of several planes lying about. It looked as if the accident had occurred yesterday. The remnants were bright and untarnished. It might be a little scary for a fellow landing at the airport in a fog to see parts of an almost new plane lying around. This is what happens in the Arctic. Some of these planes have been there for years, and apparently no one has made an effort to gather up the parts lying around the airport. I have suggested that there are special problems in the Arctic with regard to pollution. Material lying on the ground does not rust, deteriorate or sink into the ground to become part of the soil as it does elsewhere, so some special action must be taken regarding this problem. Much of the Arctic is virgin territory so far as industrial pollution is concerned—let us keep it that way. I do not think anyone really knows what an adequate pollution program in the far north would be, in view of the freezing temperatures and the perma frost. Perhaps we should carry out some further studies there. I know there have been some minor ones done but perhaps further studies should be carried out on how to dispose of waste from plants, municipalities or residents in that area.

I should like to speak for a moment about the oil industry in the Arctic. Some efforts have been made internationally to control pollution on the high seas. We in Canada are very concerned about what might happen in our Arctic in this respect. We do not know how long an oil slick might last in the Arctic because of the particularly cold temperatures that exist there, what damage it might do or how large an area it might cover before it is finally cleaned up. We do not know whether any satisfactory means are available for removing this oil from the Arctic waters. I believe that some research should be conduct-