

*Water Resources*

aware and in respect of which we should all be doing something more constructive. I spoke to a chap who works in a Crown corporation. He told me that sometimes when nobody is around they will dump waste from the plant into the river on which the plant is situated. He said occasionally the inspector comes around and they do not dump it then, but sometimes at night when they have a problem they just turn a valve and dump the waste into the river. When an employee of a Crown corporation admits this has been done at a time when the government is trying to do something about pollution, I think this is an incompatible situation about which the minister should be doing something.

I mentioned how the plant across the river pollutes the air in the city of Ottawa. Then, we had the example of the co-operative in Saskatchewan which, because it did not use sufficient wisdom, polluted the water of the Saskatchewan River. This pollution resulted in the poisoning of fish. Whether it is a Crown Corporation, a private corporation or a co-operative corporation, I say we need some adequate policing to make sure that pollution control is implemented. In fact, we need a law. We need a law with penalties and one which will be policed by an administration which has enough gumption to enforce the law in a manner which will result in improvement for the entire society. We want to clean up pollution but we also want to be fair to those who are spending a great deal of money in this area so that one does not benefit at the expense of another.

Recently I attended a conference on the subject of pollution. One of the gentlemen at that conference said that a commandment to cities which were taking their drinking water from a river might read in this way: Thou shalt take thy drinking water from below thine effluent. That is different from the present practice. At present a city takes its drinking water from a river, uses it, muddies it, and then passes it on downriver for somebody else to drink. This is not a very pleasant situation when we think of the inadequate sewage disposal systems of some cities. It is time we looked for some other and more adequate method to clean up this pollution rather than just passing along the problem to someone else. Sometimes I wonder whether, instead of taking water for a plant from a river and then passing it on downstream filled with waste, it might be better if the plant were to take water from a river, lake or well and then dump it into a series of ponds where, at the expense of that plant, the

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water would be cleaned to the point where it could be used again. This in effect, would be a cycling system.

Although for the purposes of some plants I do not think the water would have to be too pure and could contain a certain amount of taint, if this practice of dumping tainted water into a river were followed at a number of points a serious problem could result with consequent danger to fish and other life in the waters of the river, sea or ocean. I think perhaps we should look at some other methods which are at our disposal, particularly in respect of some industrial plants. As I said previously, we had the example of a plant in Saskatchewan which caused the poisoning of fish. This will result in an expense to the taxpayers of Canada or to somebody in Canada. I am not picking on this plant particularly, but it is one which came to light just recently. There are a number of different types of pollution in Saskatchewan. I do not believe there is normally as much industrial pollution there as there might be in British Columbia, Ontario or some other areas of the world.

However, there are some things we should be more careful about. Nearly every farmer there uses 2-4-D which may or may not have some long range harmful effect. Hopefully, it will not. As a farmer, I would not like to be denied the use of it. Farmers in Saskatchewan have used DDT for control of a number of items. I recall occasions when the Department of Agriculture in Saskatchewan called back some types of grasshopper spray which they found left a residue in the tissue of animals. We should be constantly aware of situations like this. In Saskatchewan there has been a fair amount of pollution in the sense of erosion of land. This has occurred in other areas of the world as well. The Chinese have had long experience with this type of pollution. The Yellow River is noted for its great floods. The sands silt the river further downstream. The Chinese used unwise forestry policy. They cut down the trees for fuel and other purposes and this is the net result.

While we seem to have unlimited forests and land in Canada, I suggest we too could suffer if we do not use a little more wisdom in this regard. This is particularly true when we consider the heavy rain areas of Canada, such as British Columbia and some sections of Ontario. We have not used wise methods in respect of the control of erosion. Last spring in some sections of rural Ontario there were