

Water Resources

There must be heavy penalties imposed on those who dump waste in natural waterways. Pollution must be traced to its source. We must tax until it costs more to pollute than it does to clean up. Pollution can be controlled at levels consistent with the greatest good of the community. If water quality is lowered by an industry, that industry must pay for the deterioration.

Let us all hope this measure will be but the beginning of a whole range of enactments which, as was said by my friend in the official opposition a few minutes ago, will place Canada in the forefront of those nations determined to protect and to preserve the biosphere of this planet. Beyond the borders of this country there must be international punishment for pollution of the environment. We need international machinery that would be empowered to propose, prepare and execute common, co-operative plans of action.

When the tanker *Manhattan* came into dry dock in New York—and I was there—people were shocked to find gaping holes in the hull. They said, "Isn't that interesting. That ice is really hard". What if the *Manhattan's* tanks had been loaded with oil instead of sea water, and the oil had seeped into our Arctic seas? There has to be punishment for the violation of international principles in respect of pollution control, and these must be established on the international level. The time to do so is now, not some time in the future when a tanker like the *Manhattan* will have ruined the ecology of some sections of our Canadian coast.

As the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) said, we invite the international community to support our initiative for a new concept, an international legal régime designed to ensure to human beings the right to live in a wholesome environment. This is just one step in the government's program to battle pollution in all its forms in the face of difficult constitutional obstacles.

The record of the government has been clear. In essence, we have established a program of support for conservation in its broadest sense—a shift in purely economic thought to include consideration of social capital and profit. That is an enlightened attitude. We have established a program of support for research and development to fight pollution and to emphasize environmental conservation. That is an enlightened attitude. Our aim is the integration of pollution-control planning with regional, river basin and district planning and land, water and air conservation and

development, use and management at all regional levels from local to provincial to international and global. This is an enlightened attitude.

This bill is not perfect but it is a step in the right direction and deserves the wholehearted support of all members of this House, regardless of party.

Mr. Gordon Ritchie (Dauphin): Mr. Speaker, in rising to speak on this bill I should like to say that I think it is like a bulldog without any teeth. It pretends to be an effective answer to water pollution, but it will not impress either industry or the provincial authorities. Most important of all, it will not meet adequately the challenge of rapidly accelerating pollution.

It is appalling to me that this government should have hesitated so long before acting, and once having decided to act has produced only this one, anaemic piece of legislation. It will be a tragedy if the bill is passed in its present form because it will lull the public and the executive into lethargy and the belief that an adequate pollution measure has been passed.

Surely, it is not necessary at this stage in our national development to have to demonstrate the need for control of pollution. Surely, even this government is conscious of the urgency of solving this problem. For months now various ministers have been promising quick action to control existing pollution and to prevent future pollution. They trumpeted their determination to wage all-out war on pollution of our land, air and water to whoever would listen. What have they produced? They have produced a bill that attacks only one part of the complex, over-all problem and attacks it half-heartedly. This is merely shadow-boxing. As I described the bill before, it is like a bulldog with rubber teeth, no bite, and not even much of a growl.

The imperative nature of the fight against pollution has been brought home to all of us in recent months in numberless examples of the pollution of every facet of our environment. The previous speaker, the hon. member for Burnaby-Seymour (Mr. Perrault), documented many of these. Those who read in the recent issue of the *National Geographic* magazine the struggle for the conservation of Lake Baikal in the Soviet Union against the industrialists and their pulp mills, will find that situation duplicated many times on this continent. This problem exists in many countries. The latest, of course, was the discovery