

Water Resources

they considered should be taken with regard to pollution and were they in favour of strong federal pollution controls? These are some of the replies I received:

By all means, any city or town should be compelled to control pollution at their own expense.

The sooner the better.

We need to keep a healthy and sanitary Canada.

No sewage should be allowed to run into any river or lake.

The problem can't be ignored.

As I look at this list, I see there are many other comments from various other parts of the area.

Definitely. Crack down on all offenders, big and small.

Should be federal laws on pollution so individual provinces could not sacrifice to get industry.

I believe this is one of the main points this government should realize. There must be strong federal measures or individual provinces may have to sacrifice pollution control because industries will not locate where they have to worry about pollution control. Some more of the answers are as follows:

It is long past time of being needed. It is most important now.

Emphatically and now.

It is becoming a serious problem and is vital to our survival.

T.N.T. today—not tomorrow.

Yes, and make the polluters pay for it.

More money is spent on less important items.

It has got to be done or we will all be poisoned eventually.

Hopefully it isn't too late.

Definitely. I am a strong conservationist and think Rachel Carson's book is not exaggerated.

It should be done now before it's too late.

National policy in this regard to date is a disgrace. Much more must be done and soon.

The people most responsible are often not too concerned—only for profits.

Strict control must be put into force immediately.

If they don't take firmer measures, the whole country will suffer and it would cost a great deal more and perhaps it would be too late.

Long past due.

It is long overdue.

Yes, especially raw sewage from cities and industrial waste from industry going into rivers, lakes, etc.

We wish to have clean air and water for us and our future generations.

The Minister of Fisheries and Forestry (Mr. Davis) addressed a meeting in Vancouver on January 15, 1970. I wish to quote one short paragraph from his statement:

A national water quality code is essential.

We need to know what the performance standards for each industry are. We also must get each industrial association into the mood where their membership is prepared to carry out joint research and

[Mr. Skoberg.]

to recognize the public relations advantages of voluntary measures control.

Regional guidelines must also be drawn because each area of the country has its own requirements and may want to set higher standards still.

In my opinion Bill C-144 does none of the things the Minister of Fisheries mentioned. Later on, he states:

In industry we must keep the worst pollutants to ourselves.

I suggest that keeping the worst pollutants to ourselves refers to the industry or municipality that is polluting. It is not good enough to suggest that we will put in primary pollution control measures which in effect would only take the lumps out and that is all. As we look at the speech the minister delivered in Vancouver, it makes us wonder. He talks about industry-hungry New Brunswick being able to see the river dying, and mining seriously affecting the Atlantic salmon industry:

The mining industry currently employs 200 men the year round; the fishery 600 New Brunswickers on a part-time basis. One, the mines, has a limited 15 year life. The other, hopefully, has an unlimited life.

I hope the minister will have some influence on his cabinet colleagues with regard to pollution control measures. I feel that the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, as well as the Minister of Fisheries and Forestry, is concerned about pollution controls. Their concern is to no avail, unless the resources are at their disposal to do something about this problem.

According to the statistics we have, it is absolutely impossible for this country to survive much longer unless money is made available to these various departments which are concerned. When this bill goes to committee, I am certain we will ensure that there are strong federal measures put into the bill so that the pollution control measures envisaged by the average individual in this country will be implemented by federal legislation. Provincial legislation will never be able to handle it. When this bill is considered, I ask that the cabinet reintroduce those loans under Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation which are directed towards pollution control so there will be some funds available to do something about this problem.

PROCEEDINGS ON ADJOURNMENT MOTION

SUBJECT MATTER OF QUESTIONS TO BE
DEBATED

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is my duty, pursuant to Standing Order 40, to inform the