

year? I wish to explain this fact, Mr. Speaker. I wish to quote from an article written by Robert Stall of the *Montreal Star* dated May 24, 1969. Before quoting I wish to say that we could have produced Canadian heavy water this year at \$20.50 per pound. We require one million pounds. We will be paying \$26.50 per pound to purchase this abroad. This water was not available by July 1, 1966, as it was supposed to be. The Canadian owned plant at Glace Bay, which was the great dream of the present Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Stanfield) when he was premier of Nova Scotia, has not to date produced one pound of heavy water. Yet it was to be ready on July 1, 1966.

● (8:20 p.m.)

The article which I mentioned reads in part:

In 1963 the Premier of Nova Scotia, Robert Lorne Stanfield, made a decision which was not one of his best—

Mr. Stanfield's idea in 1963 was to boost his humble province into the nuclear age. Nova Scotia would finance the construction and operation of a prestigious new plant that would produce the vital "heavy water" that must be used in various types of atomic reactors—

The whole thing started in 1963 in Ottawa when the Federal Atomic Energy Commission was shopping around for heavy water to use in its nuclear reactors. The commission sought tenders for a long-term contract to supply the product—and the Stanfield administration in Nova Scotia decided to submit a bid—

The details and extent of the loss are only now becoming apparent. Mr. Stanfield is now Leader of the Opposition in Ottawa and his expensive decision of six years ago is just that much heavy water under the bridge. Although chief interrogator of the government on all million-dollar issues, he has never asked a question about the Nova Scotia plant—

By October of 1963, Nova Scotia owned the majority of shares in Deuterium of Canada and, because of its new position, had incurred the \$30,000,000 debt that construction of the plant required at that time.

Mr. Spevack says today that the 1963 take-over was in the form of an ultimatum by the Nova Scotia government. "It had to be done or there would be no project... Well, we agreed. We were assured that this would in no way alter our relationship with the company. It was merely a formality and we accepted it on that basis.

In the spring of 1964, Deuterium of Canada was awarded the federal contract. The plant was to be opened by July of 1966 and a price schedule was concurred in from then to 1982. Things looked very good for Deuterium and for Nova Scotia, the controlling stockholder.

Today, three years after the scheduled opening date, the plant is still not open.

Jerome Spevack has been fired as President of Deuterium.

Alleged Lack of Action to Combat Pollution

The original \$30,000,000 investment has risen to \$110,000,000 and will go much higher.

And Nova Scotia today owns 100 per cent of the whole mess including, of course, all of the debt—

In addition, the technical problems make it virtually certain that Nova Scotia will have to invest another \$20,000,000 into the plant before it can open. And, even then, it will be capable of producing only a raw form of heavy water that will have to be subcontracted out for refining elsewhere.

This is the reason we do not have Canadian produced heavy water in Canada. I make this clear because Atomic Energy of Canada is a federal agency and I do not want to see that Crown corporation charged with any fault in this situation. That Crown corporation was not involved in it directly.

Mr. J. M. Forrestall (Dartmouth-Halifax East): Mr. Speaker, it is a great temptation to go rabbit hunting but I will not do that tonight. I simply say to the previous speaker that the events of this summer and fall will prove the point. I know the hon. member is a sensitive individual, and I know he will be quite embarrassed when the announcements are made that will indicate to the people of Canada, and in particular of Nova Scotia, the wisdom of the then premier of that province moving into this field.

Previous speakers in this debate have indicated the dangers of continued uncontrolled pollution of our rivers, lakes and strams caused by the inability of governments to come together and create a structure of rules and regulations establishing standards to regulate pollution. This governmental inability is one of the greatest pollution problems we have.

For a few short moments I want to turn hon. members' attention to the warnings we are presently receiving about the pollution of the oceans that surround us, and particularly of our coastal and territorial waters. In particular I wish to question the government's role in the development of international standards with respect to the deposit of industrial and municipal waste in coastal waters and oceans, and respecting the use of the oceans by governments as disposal places for critically dangerous forms of waste. In recent years the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations has warned that continuous dumping of this type of waste is having undesirable effects upon fish and other marine life. In very clear terms it has cautioned the entire world about the lack of international controls.