Press Reports (1954)

Walter A. Lawrance

Bates College
PRESS REPORTS

for

Late 1953

and

1954
1953

PRESS COMMENTS

The Lewiston Daily Sun

November 12, 1953

CLIMES WARMER

LAST 12 MONTHS

Mercury 2.5 Notches
Above Average for
Climatic Year

Precipitation Above Normal
at Lewiston but Down at
Four Valley Stations

The weatherman kept the heat up during the last climatic year and statistics compiled by the Union Water Power Company show the climes were 2.597 notches warmer than the 68-year average.

As a matter of record, the mercury never dipped below three above zero last winter and few folks were unhappy about it. It was just two years ago this coming December that it tumbled to 11 below one ice-bound morning.

Precipitation, despite the current drought, was on the credit side of the weather ledger at Lewiston. The UWP Co. reported a climatic year mark of 50.25 inches of water and that is 6.72 inches better than the 78-year average.

But it seemed less in comparison to the 55.08 inches for the prior climatic year when the mark was the highest since 1889.

FOUR BELOW NORMAL

The climatic year, which ends annually on Sept. 30, covers the preceding 12 months and is known in some circles as the "water year," found less water dumped on other valley points than at Lewiston.

Rumford had a climatic year mark of 46.75 inches, second highest in the valley and 7.35 inches above its long-term average.
But at four other Androscoggin River valley stations
the climatic year precipitation figures were below average.
Middle Dam in the Rangeley Lakes had the lowest total 35.06
inches. This was 2.08 under average.

Here is a comparative table of climatic year precipi-
tation figures for the seven UMW Co. valley stations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lewiston</td>
<td>50.35</td>
<td>*55.08</td>
<td>43.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rumford</td>
<td>40.75</td>
<td>40.51</td>
<td>39.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ponteauook</td>
<td>35.62</td>
<td>32.71</td>
<td>37.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Errol, N. H.</td>
<td>35.28</td>
<td>37.75</td>
<td>33.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aziscochos</td>
<td>35.39</td>
<td>32.79</td>
<td>35.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Dam</td>
<td>35.06</td>
<td>34.20</td>
<td>37.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Dam</td>
<td>35.80</td>
<td>35.01</td>
<td>34.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - Highest since 1889

In the rainfall department for Lewiston, only March
produced any startling amount and the 11.13-inch total
still was far short of any record.

The 12-month average was 4.09 inches a month and this
was slightly better than the 78-year monthly average of
3.63 inches. June, with only 0.39 inches of rain, was the
climatic year's driest month.

A comparative precipitation table for Lewiston follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>1951-52</th>
<th>78-Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>4.71</td>
<td>3.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>7.06</td>
<td>3.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>6.04</td>
<td>6.66</td>
<td>5.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>5.46</td>
<td>5.89</td>
<td>5.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>6.39</td>
<td>5.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>11.13</td>
<td>3.20</td>
<td>4.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>5.35</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>3.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>3.33</td>
<td>5.38</td>
<td>3.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>3.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>3.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>1.29</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>2.87</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50.25</td>
<td>55.08</td>
<td>43.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave.</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td>4.59</td>
<td>3.63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the just past climatic year, Lewiston's mercury didn't
rise as high as in the prior period nor fall as low. The peak
temperature last summer was 94 on June 20. This was three
notches under the sweltering 97 reached July 14, 1952 in the
prior climatic year.
The bottom mercury reading was the three above recorded last Feb. 14. But on Dec. 17 in the prior climatic year the temperature skidded to 11 below and it tumbled to a minus 7 that January.

The comparative maximum and minimum temperature tables:

**COMPARATIVE MINIMUM TEMPERATURES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>1951-52</th>
<th>1950-51</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>-7</td>
<td>-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**COMPARATIVE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>1951-52</th>
<th>1950-51</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The average temperature at Lewiston this past climatic year was 46.866 degrees, 2.987 notches above the 68-year average. July was the hottest month with an average of 69.544 degrees but it still was cooler than the 75.940 for the corresponding month the prior climatic year.

Coldest month was February when the mercury averaged a below-freezing 26.519. The February average the prior year was 24.711.

The comparative table:

**TEMPERATURES (Degrees Above Zero)**

* (Monthly Hourly Averages) *

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>47.583</td>
<td>49.456</td>
<td>48.512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>37.457</td>
<td>34.830</td>
<td>36.039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>29.699</td>
<td>23.002</td>
<td>23.759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>20.519</td>
<td>20.711</td>
<td>20.202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>32.418</td>
<td>31.562</td>
<td>32.389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>44.108</td>
<td>45.910</td>
<td>41.754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>35.952</td>
<td>51.395</td>
<td>55.525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>64.214</td>
<td>65.844</td>
<td>63.193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>62.544</td>
<td>73.940</td>
<td>68.972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>60.972</td>
<td>63.710</td>
<td>66.721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>60.601</td>
<td>61.025</td>
<td>59.241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave.</td>
<td>46.361</td>
<td>48.154</td>
<td>44.374</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The snowfall total for the climatic year was under those for the two prior years. The 43.85 inches was a big drop from the 127.70 inches for the prior winter.

Here is the table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>1951-52</th>
<th>1950-51</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>3.50</td>
<td>10.25</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>37.00</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>15.85</td>
<td>27.50</td>
<td>13.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>10.35</td>
<td>39.30</td>
<td>15.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>5.70</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>43.85</td>
<td>127.70</td>
<td>46.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lewiston Evening Journal  
November 16, 1953

RESEARCH COMMITTEE
TO HOLD CONFERENCE
ON POLLUTION PROBLEM

Augusta AP-The Legislative Research Committee will meet here tomorrow for a closed-door discussion of water pollution and what to do about it.

Pollution is the only topic scheduled for discussion, although a spokesman said there may be some reports from sub-committees on other matters.

The subject of pollution and its control was a controversial one during the 1955 legislative session. The committee has agreed to try to find a solution which can be written into law that will reduce pollution without producing economic hardship on industry and municipalities.

The Lewiston Daily Sun  
November 16, 1953

TUFTS TO ATTEND LEGISLATIVE GROUP'S SESSION ON POLLUTION

Dr. Norman R. Tufts of Auburn, executive director of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control organization, has accepted an invitation to attend an executive meeting of the Legislative Research Committee at Augusta at 2 P.M. Tuesday. The committee intends to make a study of the pollution problem in Maine.
Tufts was asked by Samuel Blochberg, director of legislative research, to attend the session in order to permit the committee to make "definite plans on the scope of the study."

The CEPC has made its own investigation of the pollution problem and the decision by the Legislative Research Committee to delve into the situation partly was the result of a recommendation by the citizens' group.

Lewiston Evening Journal  
November 17, 1933

RESEARCH COMMITTEE
HOLDS DISCUSSION
ON POLLUTION PROBLEM

Augusta AP—The Legislative Research Committee held a private discussion of Maine's water pollution problems today, with representatives of several interested groups invited to attend.

These included Health and Welfare Commissioner David H. Stevens; Inland Fisheries and Game Commissioner Roland H. Cobb; Dr. Norman Tufts of Auburn, president of Citizens for Conservation, Inc.; and B. Morton Hovey, executive director of Associated Industries of Maine.

The committee voted last month to see what it could do toward framing pollution control laws that would ease the situation without creating economic hardship for any group.

The Lewiston Daily Sun  
November 18, 1933

WAITS WATER REPORT
ON MAINE POLLUTION

Dr. Tufts and Day, Auburn, Had
Urged Speedy Action

Augusta, Nov. 17—AP—The Legislative Research Committee plans to wait for a report from the Water Improvement Commission before tackling Maine's water pollution problem head-on, the chairman said today.

The commission starts hearings next month to classify all inland and coastal waters as to the degree of pollution.

What to do about raising these classifications is the big issue, and Samuel W. Collins said the committee can't act until basic information is collected.
The committee heard several witnesses in private session today. Among them were Dr. Norman Tufts and attorney Thomas E. Day of Auburn, representing Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control, Inc.; B. Morton Havey, executive director, and Sanford L. Fogg, attorney, of Associated Industries of Maine; David H. Stevens, health and welfare commissioner; Dr. Dean Fisher, Bureau of Health director; and Roland H. Cobb, commissioner of inland fisheries and game.

Ben. Collins said Tufts' group wants quick action to relieve pollution of rivers, lakes and streams, while the industrial group recommended a go-slow attitude to see what the Water Improvement Commission's efforts produce.

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The Lewiston Daily Sun

November 19, 1936

Dr. Norman Tufts
Addresses Women's Republican Club

"The Need to Keep Maine Clean" was discussed by Dr. Norman R. Tufts, executive director of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control, at the November meeting of the Androscoggin County Women's Republican Club held Wednesday afternoon at home of Mrs. William J. Crossman, 146 Cottage Ave., Auburn.

In his illustrated talk, Dr. Tufts showed pictures taken this summer and fall which graphically pointed up the contrast between the beautiful scenery of Maine and the waste which is constantly flowing into the river.

The speaker said local mills have to purify the river water before they can use it and one mill even buys Lake Auburn water at considerable cost rather than use water from the Androscoggin. Dr. Tufts spoke of one industry that considered locating in the town of Durham but did not do so because the water was bad.

The speaker was introduced by Mrs. Selma Wegg, program chairman. Refreshments were served by the hostess.
Speaking of Day, the Auburn attorney is going to be in the thick of the fight to push through a suitable river control program aimed at elimination of pollution, or at least drastic reduction of pollution, of Maine's principal rivers.

Day and Dr. Norman R. Tufts, Auburn veterinarian, attended an executive meeting of the Legislative Research Committee at Augusta this week, and didn't hesitate to voice their disapproval of the present work of the Water Improvement Commission.

The WIC, headed by Dr. Dean Fisher, is classifying Maine rivers as to percentage of pollution, and so far most of its work, according to Day and others of his group — the "Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control" — has been aimed at up-country rivers and headwaters of smaller streams, with the Androscoggin, the Kennebec, and the Penobscot not yet classified.

Those are the rivers which need immediate attention the CCPO feels.

Other Day-Tufts beliefs expressed at the Augusta meeting:
1. Industries cause the greatest problems.
2. Towns and cities contribute to pollution but only in a small way.
3. A law with teeth like the Pennsylvania law is necessary in Maine.

Studies of the Androscoggin river show the problem lies at industry's door, Day points out. Long before the Androscoggin waters reach Lewiston and Auburn, he claims, paper mill waste have so weakened the river's oxygen content that the water can't take care of the city sewage the way it should.

Day expects a strong river bill will be presented to the next session of the Legislature. Whether it will go in as initiative legislation, requiring a referendum if unacceptable by the Legislature, or as a straight legislative bill, is uncertain at this time.

Money is a problem, says Day, and the committee's budget isn't what it should be. Contributions have come in from FFA groups and such, and the Grange is interested, but real money is needed. Day hopes to interest the Textile industry. In Pennsylvania, he said, textile units have benefited much by getting better water.
Maine industry, represented at the hearing by Mort Havey of Associated Industries, and Sanford Fogg, counsel for that organization took the position that they were not ready to discuss pollution control at this time. Fogg pointed out that public health was not affected, and there was no emergency.

The Berlin Reporter  
November 5, 1965  

$5,000,000 FURFURAL MILL HERE  
MAY USE WASTE, CUT POLLUTION  

High Hopes For  
Success With  
New By-Product  

Might Eventually  
Eliminate Odor  
in Androscoggin

A new pilot plant in the Burgess Mill that is converting some of the sugars from hardwood sulphite waste liquor into a valuable commercial solvent called furfural holds out the double hope of substantial reduction of river pollution and odor, and of profitable, large-scale production of furfural in Berlin.

Laurence F. Whittemore, Brown Company president, recently told a reporter (as quoted in the Wall Street Journal last Friday) that "if we're satisfied the method will work, we'll put up a $5 million plant, from which we'd expect to get a return of $1.8 million a year before taxes, and $500,000 to $1 million after taxes."

Brown Company's Research and Development Department has been working on the new by-product for many years, and although the chemistry of it has been fully worked out and many of the technical problems have been recently solved in the pilot plant, it hasn't quite reached the stage where big-scale commercial production is feasible.

In an interview with the Reporter this week, Assistant Director of Research Paul Goodloe said that "it has progressed very nicely and we now have some concrete hopes, but it will take several months before the whole process can be proved feasible for commercial operation."

To Reduce Pollution

He stated that the furfural research here was originally approached as a means of using the waste liquor and reducing stream pollution from the fermentable wood sugars that go into the river.
If all goes well, he said, it is the definite intention of the company to build a multi-million dollar plant to produce furfural in Berlin. The return, he said, would be mostly in the utilizing of the waste liquor and the eliminating of most of the objectionable river odor. "But", he added, "we expect it to be financially profitable too."

**Has Many Uses**

Furfural, an oily liquid with about the same consistency as maple syrup, is now being used by Dupont a raw material for making nylon and is the heat solvent in oil refining. It is also used in the refining of soybean oil, and resins, and in the making of some plastics and chemically resistant adhesives and cements.

It also has great possibilities in medicine, Dr. Goodloe said, since it is the raw material for the first synthetic substance with the power of such antibiotics as penicillin.

The only major producer of furfural in the United States today is the Quaker Oats Co., who make it from oat hulls and corn cobs. Dr. Goodloe said they started as a way of using waste, and it got so profitable that they have built three plants and are buying up corn cobs as raw material.

"A Good Possibility"

Although some pulp companies have experimented with making furfural from sulphite waste liquor, none has ever been able to produce it commercially. "So far as we know", said Dr. Goodloe, "no other pulp company has made the progress we have toward its successful development. It's still in the future, but there is now a good possibility that we'll get it into commercial production - and just as fast as is possible to do it."

The big question when you get out of the laboratory and test tube stage and into the largescale pilot plant, he said, is whether you can design and build the equipment that will hold the liquor and that will stand up under all the steps in the process. The last few weeks, he said, have confirmed that some of the steps can be done, and the Research Department is working toward developing and testing the complete process.

The part of the wood sugars which can be converted into furfural occurs to a greater extent in the hardwoods than soft, so that is where the present research is being concentrated. Dr. Goodloe said it was not too much to hope that as much as 85 or 90 percent of the fermentable and odor-forming sugar could be eventually kept out of the river, if the furfural conversion is developed and expanded in the future and that would probably mean practically a complete elimination of that part of river odor resulting from Brown Co. pulping operations.
From an economic standpoint, an important feature of a possible nuclear plant here would be that it wouldn't involve much man-power and would require only a few men to keep it going.

ANDROSCOGGIN SUNDAY NEWS

Nov. 8, 1953

TUFTS SAYS POLLUTION FACTOR IN HIGH CMP ELECTRIC RATES

THE HEAD OF A CITIZENS Pollution Control group asserted yesterday that river pollution is a hidden factor in the high rates being charged by the Central Maine Power Company, after the company was notified Friday that its request for a sizeable rate increase had not been granted. The company sought an increase of 13 and 12% but was allowed only 2 and 2 1/2% by the Maine Public Utilities Commission.

DR. MORIAN R. TUFTS, Auburn veterinarian, issued a statement on pollution as "a high cost item which has been concealed from the public who foot the bill." Tufts is the executive director of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control.

CMP RATES ARE AMONG the highest in the country according to the Public Utilities decree returned in limiting the increase to a small part of the amount requested. The Commission stated it did not have enough information to determine the reasons for the high rates, but said, "It is, however, a matter for serious concern, and in the interests of the public and of the company further study will have to be made.

ACCORDING TO HIS statement, Dr. Tufts plans to communicate with Sumner T. Pike, PUC chairman, to ask that the Commission study the contribution of pollution to these high costs. His statement contends that water rights held by the power utilities play a part in the contamination of valuable water resources with the added cost of combating the pollution then passed on to the consumer.

CMP rates have long been controversial. In 1948 a 7% increase was granted. A request for an increase of 14% was denied in 1952. The company's estimate of operating property was considered five and a half million dollars too high by the PUC, and the request for a return of 6.1% on investment was questioned by the Commission feeling that 5.9% would be a reasonable figure.

WILLIAM F. WYMAN, CMP president, said Friday the decision would be appealed.
The complete statement by Dr. Tufts follows:

"I am sending a communication to Sumner T. Pike, chairman of the Public Utilities Commission. Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control are asking that body to make a study of how water pollution contributes to Maine electric power rates which are the highest in the nation.

"Our organization has on file pictures and other data showing how hydro-electric power dams impound waters and contribute to a fomenting process which in turn damages equipment, corrodes turbines etc.

"In some cases it has been necessary to lower ponderous equipment onto dam areas to bulldoze sludge which has accumulated there. The high cost of such operation was simply passed on to consumers in the form of higher rates.

"MANY OF THE WATER rights held by power utilities play an active part in contamination of our most valuable water resources in Maine. This is a high cost item which has been concealed from the public, who foot the bill.

The Evening Journal
November 26, 1953

EDITORIAL

Note: Written by Dan Dexter after he telephoned me about the nature of the foam.

A LOOK AT THE RIVER

The surging, grey-white billows on the Androscoggin River are due to the terrific pounding the stream is giving its flow from the downpour in the middle of the week.

While there may be traces of pollution in these masses swinging down to Merrymeeting Bay, on the whole, it's all to the good.

The raging waters are pounding oxygen into the old Androscoggin. That is what it needs and in big quantities.

It isn't exactly a pleasant sight, especially just below Gulf Island Dam, but don't be misled—it's not poison.
BROWN COMPANY EXPERIMENTS
MAY SOLVE RIVER PROBLEMS

Berlin, N. H.—The Brown Company is experimenting with the manufacture of furfural, a synthetic solvent, in which appears to be a turning point in what may be a real solution to the concerns contribution to the river odor problem.

The Brown Bulletin, published monthly by the Brown Co., in its current issue, contains the following article:

"The possibility of building a multi-million dollar plant for the manufacture of furfural, a synthetic solvent having more and more uses every day, appears to be turning into what might be a real solution to Brown Company's contribution to the river odor problem and, at the same time, turn out to be a profitable venture.

"Now in operation in the Burgess mill is a pilot plant designed to study all phases of the problem to determine whether it would be practical to construct a large-scale plant to manufacture furfural from the waste liquor now being piped to either the river or a lagoon.

"Although some pulp companies have experimented with making furfural from sulphite waste liquor, none has ever been able to produce it commercially. The only company now manufacturing furfural on a large scale is the Quaker Oats Company. Their process uses corn cobs and oat hulls as its base raw material.

"The big question, still not completely answered, is whether it is possible and practical to build equipment necessary to hold the liquors and to also stand up under all the steps of the process. It has been determined that some of the steps can be done on a large scale, but there are still others that remain in the experimental stage and so far, unanswered.

"According to Brown Company research men, it is hoped that as much as 85 to 90% of the fermentable and odor-forming waste liquor will be eventually kept out of the river if the furfural conversion is developed and expanded into a large scale operation. That would probably mean practically a complete elimination of that part of the river odor resulting from Brown Company's pulping operations.

"Substantial proof that Brown Company is and has been concerned over the waste liquor being piped into the river is the fact that for more than two years research people have been working on the problem. It is the sincere hope
of Brown Company management that the complete answer may be found in the very near future."

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Lewiston Evening Journal  November 30, 1953

EDITORIAL

LET'S HOPE SO

The Brown Co., Berlin, N. H., hopes for a solution to the pollution of rivers – particularly the Androscoggin.

Says the company's monthly Bulletin: "The possibility of the building of a multi-million dollar plant for the manufacture of furfural, a synthetic solvent having more and more uses every day, appears to be turning into what might be a real solution to Brown Company's contribution to the river odor problem and, at the same time, turn out to be a profitable venture."

Let's hope so!
1953
PRESS COMMENTS
December

The Lewiston Daily Sun

December 1, 1953

EDITORIAL

Hope For Cleaner Rivers

While people in Maine have been squabbling over pollution of our inland waters, the Brown Company of Berlin, N. H., has been quietly doing something about the problem of disposal of liquid wastes resulting from paper-making. This sulfite liquor is the chief source of pollution of the Androscoggin, Kennebec and Penobscot rivers.

Now in operation at Berlin is a small pilot plant which is studying the practical possibilities of a much larger facility that would process waste liquors and recover from them furfural, a synthetic solvent of great value in industrial chemistry. At present furfural is being made commercially by the Quaker Oats Company in the mid-west, from corn cobs and oat hulls.

This information is derived from the latest issue of the paper-maker's monthly house organ, the "Brown Bulletin." It goes on to say that some of the processes involved have been perfected for larger-scale manufacture, and though all the problems have not yet been solved, the chances of success are good.

If this hopeful prospect becomes reality, the Brown Co. will make a profit from its waste, and its example will undoubtedly be copied by other paper-makers. And we will have accomplished far more in the direction of cleaner rivers, than all the laws that can be passed.

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ANDROSCOGGIN SUNDAY NEWS
December 6, 1953

TUFTS BLASTS SOLONS
FOR "DELAY" TACTICS

THE HEAD OF a citizens statewide conservation group last night said he feels the people of Maine will derive very little benefit from the Legislative Research Committee's current study of the critical condition of the State's rivers, streams and coastal areas.
SPEAKING TO A MEETING of the State Council for the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control in Auburn, Executive Director Norman R. Tufts declared: "The recent executive session of the Research Committee, which attended, was an indication that the ordinary citizen of Maine can expect nothing but further delaying tactics by polluting industries and close support for such programs by State agencies."

Dr. Tufts and the CC & FC legal representative attended the research panel's gathering last month at Augusta from which the press was barred.

"WHILE IT WOULD SEEM unfair at this early stage to condemn and discount actions of the research group on pollution control problems", Dr. Tufts stated, "they have fallen into the same old groove of stall and delay which has been distasteful policy of the polluters down thru the years. Our State agencies have been taken into camp again and, apparently, we can expect little positive action on clean-up from them, so long as they remain the captives of big special interests who strip our forests and poison our water resources.

He noted that the Research Committee had decided to await the classification of rivers and streams in the State prior to taking any further steps. "This is another phase in the technique of putting-off a definite clean-up start. The State Water Improvement Commission will daily and stretch out a classification program which will extend to the outer reaches of Maine, and we'll accomplish nothing but spending tax money and wasting time while present conditions grow even worse."

DR. TUFTS REMINDED that surveys and expert study have already been made on the contaminated rivers comprising the State's major waterways. "Instead of stalling under the pretext of classification action, the Legislative Research Committee should move in the direction of speedy recommendation for a feasible and immediate start on a reasonable program that will restore these rivers."

Remarking that a recent speaking tour in Aroostook revealed a bad potato starch pollution there, the CC & FC head said, "Offending industries up there are using the same tactics. They claim that they're studying the problem, doing research and someday hope to actually do something about their messes. In the meantime, the people get worse - and no clean-up - our water resources continue on as waste-carriers and filthy sewers for a rich and powerful minority."

IN CONCLUDING HE REMINDED: "The polluters are currently pushing a campaign of propaganda trying to deceive the public into believing that something is being done to clean-up. Typical is a recent press release from an inter-state offender saying that they have been, and now are, experimenting on removing odor from the Androscoggin River. No mention is made of restoring the quality of the water which they spoil, and
their words offer only an admission of guilt and the fact
that they alone control the natural resources rightfully
belonging to all."

The Lewiston Daily Sun December 9, 1953

ANTI-POLLUTION
CAMPAIGN ASKED

Auburn Chamber Re-
quests State-Wide
Support to Combat
"Menace"

Safety Program Discussed by
Civic Affairs Head; Hear
Secretary's Report

By Cynthia M. Stevens

Auburn's Chamber of Commerce voted last night to send a
letter, prepared by Russell M. Allshouse and his civic affairs
committee, to other Maine chambers asking their support and
cooperation in its anti-pollution campaign.

The communication requests the other groups to "join to-
gether in a cooperative effort of action, education and in-
formation which will eventually eliminate bad conditions which
create a climate unsatisfactory for expansion of business and
the luring of diversified industry to our State.

"GROSS POLLUTION"

"The Auburn Chamber of Commerce is hereby calling upon all
groups in the State to join us in our program to combat the
gross pollution which has reduced our once beautiful rivers,
streams and coastal areas to carriers of waste and menaces to
the health and economy of our people.

"Since the Maine State Chamber of Commerce passed a resolu-

at its recent meeting dealing with the preservation and restora-
tion of our natural resources, it has become a mandate for indi-
vidual chamber units to actively participate in a drive to over-
come the critical condition of our State's water and woods resources."
EDITORIAL

RIVER POLLUTION

Cleansing the Androscoggin River will be a long and costly job.

It can’t be done by legislation.

That is the gist of remarks in Boston today by Dr. Walter A. Lawrence before a meeting of the National Stream Improvement Council.

Lawrence is river master of the Androscoggin and head of the Bates College Chemistry Department.

This applies also to other streams.

The situation on the Androscoggin, and other rivers, will not be solved until some economic method is found to utilize the waste, he said.

Industries are spending $300,000 in recent years to reduce pollution on the river that flows through this community.

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Lawiston Evening Journal

December 11, 1953

LONG AND COSTLY RESEARCH
ONLY ANSWER TO POLLUTION
DR. LAWRENCE TELLS GROUP

Boston - Long, intensive, and usually costly research is the only answer to river pollution problems, a Bates College chemist told New England members of the National Council for Stream Improvement today.

Dr. Walter A. Lawrence, head of Bates College chemistry department, said: "Legislation, whatever its merits, cannot solve scientific problems, only long, intensive, and usually costly research and development will furnish the answers and provide methods for a permanent solution to the pollution of our rivers."

Dr. Lawrence explained the Androscoggin River program and described technical results of laboratory research work done chiefly at Bates College during the past eight years.
The lagoons built by the paper companies at Jay, Me., and Berlin, N. H., have so far proved the best way of reducing the summer pollution load, Dr. Lawrence declared. These lagoons have cost the paper companies more than $850,000.

The addition of oxygen to the river water in the form of sodium nitrate has also proved very beneficial. This program is expensive, however, having cost more than $300,000 to date, and it is considered only a temporary expedient, the audience was told.

The speaker said the Androscoggin pollution program would not be solved until some economic method was found to utilize most, if not all, of the sulphite waste liquor. For this reason all of the more promising processes for recovery or conversion of sulphite waste liquor have been investigated. To date none has been found to be satisfactory for incorporation in the present mills within economic limits.

Dr. Lawrence then spoke on the new process now being developed by Brown Company of Berlin. The idea of cooking wood for pulp so as to obtain maximum conversion of certain of the sugars into furfural is not a recent one.

Dr. George A. Richter of the Brown Company began some research on this problem many years ago but the work was eventually suspended due to technical difficulties. About four years ago this research was reviewed and due to technical and other advances which had been made in the intervening years and also to the urgent pollution problem a decision was made to re-investigate the method. About two years ago the research was intensified and expanded by Brown Company under the direction of Dr. George A. Day and assisted later by Dr. Paul Goodloe. Eventually the laboratory results appeared to justify the expenditure of about $100,000 for the erection of a pilot plant in Berlin, N. H., to test the feasibility of the process. This pilot plant was completed late this summer and operations were begun a few weeks ago. Presently the results are encouraging but at least six months of operation will be required to obtain sufficient data and experience before a final decision can be made as to the success or failure of this process on both a technical and economic basis. If successful considerable time will be required to make the necessary structural changes in the present sulphite mill and to build the new process plant. Preliminary estimates as to possible costs indicate an expenditure of four to five million dollars will be required. Should additional processing be adopted the costs will be higher than this.

Dr. Lawrence stressed the fact that while the furfural process, if successful, will solve many of the problems on the Androscoggin river by substantially reducing the pollution load and improving the quality of the water it is applicable only to Brown Company's method of making hardwood sulphite dissolving pulp. It is not possible to apply this furfural method to other
Maine sulfite mills, due to their manufacturing different pulps for very different uses than that of the Berlin Company. Softwood sugars are not convertible into furfural.

The Lewiston Daily Sun

RIVER STUDY
RESULTS GOOD

Operations Underway by
Brown Co. In Effort
To Solve Problem

Bates Chemistry Head Tells
Boston Session Research,
Development Needed

BOSTON - Encouraging results have been reported from operations being conducted by the Brown Co., Berlin, N. H., in its attempt to find a solution to the Androscoggin River pollution problem.

"At the present time, results are encouraging," Dr. Walter A. Lawrence, head of the chemistry department at Bates College, yesterday told a session of the New England National Council for Stream Improvement. "But at least six months of operations are needed to obtain sufficient data and experience before a final decision can be made as to the success or failure of this process on both a technical and economical basis," he asked.

Lawrence told the group the Brown Company a few weeks ago began operations on a process which it is hoped will offer a solution to river pollution.

He said this process, the idea of cooking wood for pulp so as to obtain maximum conversion of certain of the sugars into furfural, is not a new one.

PILOT PLANT

Lawrence said the Brown Company began research on this problem many years ago but the work was eventually suspended due to technical difficulties. A decision was made to reinvestigate the method four years ago. Research the past two years was under the direction of Dr. George A. Day, assisted later by Dr. Paul Goodloe.

Laboratory results eventually appeared to justify the expenditure of about $100,000 for the construction of a pilot plant in Berlin to test the feasibility of the process. The pilot plant was completed late this summer.
COSTLY CHANGES

If the operations prove successful, considerable time will be required to make the necessary structural changes in the present sulphite mill and to build the new process plant. It has been estimated an expenditure of four to five million dollars will be required and more money would be need if additional processing is adopted.

Dr. Lawrence added that while the furfural process, if successful, will solve many of the problems on the Androscoggin River by substantially reducing the pollution load and improving the quality of the water it is applicable only to the Brown Company's method of making hardwood sulphite dissolving pulp.

It is not possible to apply this method to other Maine sulphite mills because they manufacture different pulps for very different uses than that of the Berlin Company. Softwood sugars are not convertible into furfural.

NEED RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT

"Legislation, whatever its merits, cannot solve scientific problems, only long, intensive, and usually costly research and development will furnish the answers and provide methods for a permanent solution to the pollution of our rivers," Dr. Lawrence said.

He explained Androscoggin River problems and described technical results of laboratory research work done chiefly at Bates College during the past year.

"The lagoons built by the paper companies at Jay, Me., and Berlin, N. H., have so far proved the best way of reducing the summer pollution load. These lagoons have cost the paper companies more than $250,000."

Adding oxygen to the river water in the form of sodium nitrate has also proved very beneficial, he said, adding that the program is expensive, has cost more than $300,000 to date and is considered only a temporary expedient.

Lawrence said the Androscoggin pollution problem will not be solved until some economic method is found to utilize most, if not all, of the sulphite waste liquor.

He said all of the more promising processes for recovery or conversion of sulphite waste liquor have been investigated but to date none have been found to be satisfactory for incorporation in the present mills within economic limits.
1954
PRESS COMMENTS
January

Lewiston Evening Journal  January 30, 1954

RESEARCH COMMITTEE PLANS
STATEWIDE HEARING ON PROBLEMS
OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

By L. A. Lemieux

AUGUSTA - The Legislative Research Committee will hold a
State-wide hearing on water pollution control within a few
months.

Representative Louis Jalbert of Lewiston, only Democrat
on the committee, said today that the Water Improvement Com-
mission is conducting a pollution survey to gather the neces-
sary information for the hearing. Recently the committee met
with an Androscoggin County group which has been urging imme-
diate action to curb pollution of Maine rivers, streams and
other inland waters.

The last Legislature considered the pollution problem at
length and assigned to the Water Improvement Commission the
task of classifying waters of the State. The lawmakers refused
to go along with a program which would have enforced immediate
and stringent restrictions on pollution.

SAYS INDUSTRY
WILL SOLVE
POLUTION

AUGUSTA AP - The new president of the Associated Industries
of Maine said today the state "may safely rely on the desire and
the brains in industrial Maine to develop an orderly, construc-
tive, long range plan" to reduce water pollution.

The goal, J. William Schulze of Wiscasset said, is to formu-
late a plan that will "accomplish our purpose to the fullest
attainable extent and within bounds from an economic as well as
a social point of view."

Industry favors stream improvement, he told AIM directors
in his speech accepting election today as president.

"The real question is how it can be achieved without destroy-
ing or crippling much of our industry and without placing im-
possible burdens upon communities in respect to their sewage
disposal responsibilities," he said.
Schulze is vice president and treasurer of the Bath Iron Works Corp.

The 34th annual AIM directors' meeting also elected as vice president, Wallace E. Parsons of Waterville, president of the Keyes Fibre Co., and Theodore F. Spear of Rumford, Vice president in charge of public relations of the Oxford Paper Co.

Clarence L. Philbrick of Augusta, manager of Viles Timberlands, Inc., was re-elected treasurer, and B. Morton Havey of Tweedfield was elected to his 10th consecutive year as executive director.

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Lewiston Evening Journal

January 22, 1954

AUBURN CHAMBER

ASKS OTHERS JOIN

IN POLLUTION FIGHT

The Civic Affairs Committee of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce has sent letters to the other chambers in the State asking them to join in the local chamber's program to combat the "gross pollution" of our rivers, streams and coastal areas.

The letters were sent out to the chambers by Russell E. Allshouse, chairman of the Civic Affairs Committee.

The complete letter follows:

"Since the Maine State Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution at its recent State Meeting dealing with the preservation and restoration of our natural resources, it has become a mandate for individual Chamber units to actively participate in a drive to overcome the critical condition of our State's water and wood resources.

"With this in mind, the Civic Affairs Committee of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce is hereby calling upon all Chamber groups in the State to join us in our program to combat the gross pollution which has reduced our once beautiful rivers, streams and coastal areas to carriers of waste and menace to the health and economy of our people.

"We ask other Chambers to join together with us in a cooperative effort of action, education and information which will eventually eliminate bad conditions which create a climate unsatisfactory for expansion of business and the lure of diversified industry to our State.

"Let us hear your reaction on this matter, so that we may profit from an exchange of ideas and a concentrated program to protect and enlarge Maine's natural bounties."
LEGISLATION NEEDED
TO FORCE POLLUTION
CLEAN-UP, SAYS DAY

Legislation will be required to force industry to clean up pollution, members of the Auburn Exchange Club were told yesterday by Thomas X. Day Jr., legal advisor of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control.

Day said the long term program advocated by industry should be read and interpreted as a long term delay in starting a clean up. He stressed the fact that in several other states legislation was necessary to get the clean up program going.

Remarking on the proportion of pollution caused to Maine waters, Day said 90% is caused by industry and 10% by communities. He said the group interested in control of pollution is planning to revamp the Pennsylvania law and to present this to the Maine Legislature at its next session.

LEVISTON EVENING JOURNAL
February 3, 1954

EDITORIAL

CAN'T RUSH POLLUTION CURE

A significant meeting was held in Augusta yesterday in the campaign to take pollution out of Maine waters.

The Stream Improvement Committee of the Associated Indus-
tries of Maine met for the first time this year.

The AIM is on record in favor of gradual improvement con-
sistent with the economic ability of industry and municipalities to meet the costs, AIM Pres. J. M. Schultz reported.

Theodore F. Spear of the Oxford Paper Co., Rumford, chair-
man of the committee, described the present work as - "gathering of all possible data pertaining to pollution, including both municipal and industrial wastes."

Last night, Dr. Norman R. Tufts, Auburn veterinarian, at

Tufts is director of Citizens for Conservation and Pollu-
tion Control."
Elimination of pollution from Maine waters cannot — and should not be rushed — to the detriment of industrial and municipal financial positions.

The Associated Industries is genuinely and sincerely interested in a practical solution to the problem.

"Neither have State agencies or the Legislative Research Committee turned their backs on this.

Millions invested in industry and commitments by municipalities are at stake in this project.

Nothing will be accomplished by hasty words and gun-shot charges against industry or State agencies.

The Lewiston Daily Sun February 3, 1934

DR. TUFTS EXPOSES DELAY ON POLLUTION

Gardiner, Feb. 2 AP — Dr. Norman A. Tufts, Auburn veterinarian, charged tonight that "organized Maine industry and captive state agencies are fighting against cleanup of waters and woods, using the same techniques of obstruction which have failed against the people elsewhere."

Tufts, executive director of Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control, said in a speech to the Current Events Club here:

"In Michigan, Wisconsin, California, New York, Rhode Island and other states the industrial waste problem is being overcome. Industry has not been hurt financially nor have they been forced to move away by programs based on cleanliness and decency.

"While polluters press their delaying actions Maine continues to lead the area in pollution and polio. The Legislative Research Committee and Water Improvement Commission ignore these facts as they beat the drums for a program of stall, do nothing and take a long time doing it."

"If industrial wastes were reduced," he said, "municipal sewage treatment would be a much more economical treatment."

A short time earlier in Augusta, a stream improvement committee of the Associated Industries of Maine held its first meeting of the year.

Chairman Theodore F. Spear of the Oxford Paper Co., in Rumford said the committee's work for the present is the gathering of all data possible pertaining to pollution, including both municipal and industrial wastes.
He said the study also will cover commercial use of Maine's waters as related to the state's overall economy.

All President J. M. Schulze has placed his organization in favor of gradual stream improvement consistent with the economic abilities of both industry and the municipalities.


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**ASKS CROSS' AID IN POLLUTION CONTROL**

Russell E. Allshouse, chairman of the Civic Affairs Committee of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, made public yesterday a letter he forwarded to Governor Cross asking that a firm stand be taken on a clean-up of water pollution in Maine.

Allshouse referred in the letter to another the Chamber is sending to other Chamber groups in Maine in a call for a concerted drive against pollution of Maine waters.

In part, the letter to Governor Cross stated:

"Since from time to time during your campaign you indicated your support for a pollution control program, I am taking this opportunity for enlisting your aid in our clean-up drive.

"Our investigation and research is pointing out that other States with similar pollution problems at first encountered the same opposition in their attempts to abate the contamination of valuable water resources as is being used in Maine. xxx These States which have recorded progress have found that no industries moved away and that the areas, as a whole, profited by the clean-up.

"Your position on this matter, as chief magistrate of our State, is most important. This problem cannot be overcome overnight, but classification and stall are only delaying an actual start on the pollution problem solutions.

"Your views would be welcomed as it is distressing to note that Maine is falling behind in pollution control. There is no substitute for a clean-up, and it is evident that our State will learn the hard way if it falls for the 'long-way-round' approach that never actually hits at the heart of the problem. The program should be reasonable, but the start should be definite and immediate."
AUGUSTA, Feb. lo - AP- The Stream Improvement Committee of the Associated Industries of Maine announced a two part program as its immediate objective today.

T. F. Spear, chairman, vice president of Oxford Paper Co., Rumford, said the objectives would be, first, gathering all possible facts concerning industrial and municipal wastes and, second, keeping the public informed "each step of the way."

"Every home owner, every property owner, every industry, in short, every taxpayer will have a share in the cost of any statewide program designed to improve streams and rivers," Spear said. "Therefore our committee believes a well-informed public is of vital importance."

He issued a statement at the close of the second meeting of the committee held since it was appointed at the annual meeting of Associated Industries three weeks ago.

Others attending were Thomas G. Mangan, International Paper Co., Chisholm, Maine; Earl B. Ross and Kenneth Gifford, Wilton Woolen Co., Wilton; Ralph Cutting, Keyes Fibre Co., Waterville; B. E. Connelly, Hartland Tanning Co., Hartland; Fred N. Mason, Hollingsworth and Whitney Co., Waterville.

M. H. NATURAL RESOURCES NOT TO BE FEDERALIZED, COUNCIL TOLD

By Leon W. Anderson

New Hampshire citizens today had been assured that a government sponsored $3,000,000 survey of natural resources of the seven northeastern states is not designed to "federalize" the area, and that it will not favor public power projects.

Col. Benjamin B. Talley of New York, chairman of the New England-New York Inter-Agency committee, gave these assurances to the N. H. Natural Resources Council here last night.

With representatives of about 20 state and private agencies present, Col Talley revealed that the much-disputed survey is now being geared to a policy that the national resources belong
to the states, and the question of what will be done with its findings will be left up to citizens of the states.

The meeting brought out that representatives of the seven states now have full veto control over all activities of the NENYIAC studies. For that reason, Walter C. White, director of the state Water Resources Board, and New Hampshire representative in the survey, explained the seven states are now giving full cooperation to the $3,000,000 venture, financed largely with federal funds.

REPORT NEXT YEAR

Col. Talley said his committee has completed 85% of its studies, and a new series of public hearings on the findings will be held in the seven states the last six months of this year. He revealed that the final report will be submitted to the governors of the states early next year, and then will be handed to President Eisenhower by July 1 of 1955.

Col Talley flew to Concord for a dinner meeting of the Natural Resources Council to submit himself to questioning on the seven-state survey, which was launched by an executive order of former President Truman in October of 1950. At the time New Hampshire officials felt the survey was designed as an opening wedge towards federal establishment of public power projects in the New England area. White explained last night that other states joined in this viewpoint. For that reason, he said, two years ago the states served an ultimatum upon NENYIAC and threatened to withdraw from the survey unless the states were given equal voice in its deliberations.

ADAMS' ROLE

White declared that former Gov. Adams, now chief aide to President Eisenhower, played a leading role in this states rights "rebellion", and it proved successful. Since then, an executive council of 14 men, half of them representing the seven states and the others representing seven participating federal agencies, have supervised details of the giant survey.

The dinner meeting was held at the Millville Inn, with 50 present. Spokesmen for a dozen private organizations interested in wildlife, forestry and other natural resources, subjected Col. Talley to nearly an hour of questioning following delivery of a seven-page prepared statement by the chairman of NENYIAC.

Much of the questioning centered upon claims that the committee was not giving sufficient time to conservation and promotion of forestry and wildlife resources. Col. Talley was repeatedly subjected to questioning on these phases of natural resources against what the committee was doing in studying power and pollution potentialities in the seven-state area.

Col. Talley emphasized that under his chairmanship, and with the approval of the seven states, his committee does not intend "to tell anyone what should be done with the natural
resources now under study," he said, "It is considered beyond the scope and the authority of this committee to determine and recommend who should develop the several resource features, and exactly when this should be accomplished."

GUIDE IN PLANNING

Talley declared, "The committee envisions its final report as being a text or reference book on the resources in this region, which can be used as a guide by all persons interested in resource planning . . .

"Our mission is to present the facts; to arrive at the most logical conclusions and to recommend what should be done to attain the maximum benefit from development, utilization, and conservation of the resources in this region. We shall leave to those responsible for such matters the decision regarding the actual development of the resources. To have any other view would be to impose restrictions on the orderly utilization of these resources, rather than to encourage their development."

Col. Talley said there "will be no bias in the committee's report." He emphasized that the report "will not deal in any way with the subject of public power versus private enterprise."

CONCORD HEARING

Talley stressed that every effort is being made to give all parties concerned ample opportunity to criticize the survey's findings before they are completed. When the second series of hearings are staged, the tentative findings of the committee will be available for study at least 10 days before each hearing date. One of the hearings will be held in Concord, Col. Talley said, probably in June or July.

Talley revealed that much of the survey work is already compiled and the details are available for study by any interested persons or organizations. He pointed out that a considerable amount of this detail is already available at the statehouse in Concord, so far as the survey pertains to New Hampshire.

Talley said the subcommittees made up of 140 persons, including seven Granite State officials beside the Director White, are actively participating in the multiple studies of the survey. White listed them as Ralph G. Carpenter, fish and game director; William Healey, pollution, and water supply; Health Officer John S. Wheeler, health and insects; Commissioner of Agriculture Perley I. Vitts; Planning Director Sulo Tanig; Harry Rogers, forestry and recreation, and Prof. Ralph Myers of the University of New Hampshire, minerals.

The army spokesman emphasized that all parties having an interest in the progress of the survey should contact any of these state officials for information.
COST $3 MILLION

James H. Johnston, executive secretary of NENYIAC and son of Col. James H. Johnston of Concord, said the seven state survey was expected to cost about $8,000,000. He explained that much of its findings would be of lasting benefit in various ways, both to the Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies, as well as the states themselves.

Johnston said the army engineers, charged with compiling and writing the report of the committee, is spending about $1,000,000 on the survey. The remainder of the cost is being shouldered by the six other participating federal agencies. State governments are contributing a minor part of the expense, he said.

Tudor French of Concord, vice chairman of the Natural Resources Council, a voluntary group of private citizens, presided over the meeting in the absence of Rep. Katherine Jackson of Peterboro, the chairman. Rep. J. Howard Mendenhall of Dunbarton, council secretary, reported briefly on other affairs of the organization before Col. Talley presented the story of what NENYIAC was doing.

The Lewiston Daily Sun
February 13, 1954

POLLUTION "ONE OF GRAVEST PROBLEMS"

Governor Cross, replying to a letter from Russell E. Allshouse, chairman of the Civic Affairs Committee of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, said pollution of Maine lakes and streams is "one of the gravest problems which will face our State Legislature next winter."

"As you know, I have very definite ideas on this which I shall convey to the members of the Legislature when they assemble," Governor Cross added.

Allshouse recently wrote to the governor on the pollution problem. In the letter, Allshouse stated the position of the Auburn Chamber and said a long-range program meant only a long delay in starting a clean-up.

The text of Governor Cross' reply to Allshouse:

I appreciate your writing me, giving me your personal views and those of the Chamber of Commerce of the city of Auburn on pollution.

"To my mind, this is one of the gravest problems which will face our State Legislature next winter."
"As you know, I have very definite ideas on this which I shall convey to the members of the Legislature when they assemble.

"You may be sure of my cooperation in this matter. I fully realize its implications and the amount of dollars that will be necessary before this is completely under control.

"There are certainly long-range implications that must be considered but a definite start has to be made."

The Lewiston Daily Sun March 8, 1954

CROSS ENDORSES WILDLIFE
FEDERATION CAMPAIGN FOR
RESOURCE CONSERVATION

AUGUSTA, March 7 AP - The program of the National Wildlife Federation tonight received the endorsement of Gov. Cross, who urged Maine people to become better acquainted with proper conservation methods and wise use of natural resources.

The federation is sponsoring National Wildlife Week March 21-27. The Maine Inland Fisheries and Game Department and Maine Fish and Game Association will participate in the observance.

"Down through the years," Cross said in a statement, "the National Wildlife Federation has worked unceasingly for the protection and preservation of these resources, using time and money to instruct the citizens of this great country in the value of conservation education.

"Today, with affiliates in 47 states, including Maine, the work of the federation is bearing fruit for conservationists of our state and of the nation."

The federation has taken water pollution control as its theme for 1954, and has announced these six goals:

1. Promotion of adequate water pollution laws in every state.
2. Adequate appropriations for state pollution control agencies.
3. Adequate sewage treatment facilities in every community.
4. Adequate waste prevention or waste treatment by every industry, and additional research where industrial waste problems have not been solved.
5. Prevention of silt pollution through soil conservation practices.
6. Adequate appropriations for the research and cooperative programs of the Water Pollution Control Division of the U.S. Public Health Service.
BROWN CO. STOCKHOLDERS
INFORMED BY WHITTEMORE OF FURFURAL EXPERIMENT

BERLIN, N. H. - Results of Brown Company's experiments in production of furfural, a synthetic chemical widely used as a solvent, have "not been fully proved-out as yet" but there are indications "the basic process proposal is sound," L. F. Whittemore stated Wednesday in his annual letter to stockholders.

Mr. Whittemore stated: "A pilot plant has been operating for several months for study of the recovery of furfural from hardwood sulphite waste liquor. Furfural, a synthetic chemical derived from the natural sugars in hardwood, has a large and growing list of applications as a solvent. It is used in the manufacture of nylon and of a number of tough synthetic resins, the purification of lubricating oils, and various solvent extraction processes.

"Its current price is $830 per ton, while our pilot operation has not been fully proved-out as yet, results thus far indicate that the basic process is sound, and that a recovery of 30 tons per day may be anticipated during hardwood operations.

"Data on operating conditions and product quality are being obtained, leading to an estimate of capital investment required for full production.

"Apart from the profit which may be realized, recovery of furfural would bring a significant drop in stream pollution from this source."

BUY BEAN WOODLANDS

Mr. Whittemore further announced:

"Negotiations for the acquisition of 12,345 acres of woodlands from the estate of Albert M. Bean of Errol, N. H., were concluded after the close of the fiscal year. The purchase of these lands is in keeping with the company's plans to acquire timberlands as they become available within the general area of present operations. This purchase brings the total acreage acquired during the past three years to 79,064.

"One of the company's long-term objectives is to market a diversified line of consumer products. Brown Company is already a foremost producer of industrial and institutional paper towels, of which over 40,000 tons were sold in the United States and Canada in 1954. During the past year the company developed two lines of high quality toilet paper and introduced them to the institutional field through our existing towel marketing organization. As a natural extension of these activities, we
are planning to introduce roll towels and toilet tissue for household use. Preliminary market studies, in our opinion, justify the introduction of these products to the consumer market. It is expected that an advertising and sales promotion program will be undertaken to launch these items. A laminated machine wipe has also been developed and will soon be introduced for industrial use."

"The new L and M filter cigarettes are the result of an extensive three-year investigation of possible filter media by Liggett and Myers Tobacco Co. and their consultants.

"Seeking a strictly non-mineral material, they developed a highly effective filter tip using the miracle product, Solka Floc, Brown Company's purified alpha cellulose, after determining that it is "the purest and best material now available for filtering cigarette smoke." This special-purpose Floc is another product developed in our research laboratories."

Mr. Whittimore stated:
"Much of the production of Brown Company plants is sold for conversion into finished products by other manufacturers, slightly less than half of our pulp output is converted by the company into finished paper and towel products. For the most part, however, even these are not end products in the sense that they reach the individual consumer under a Brown Company label and trademark.

"It has been our intention, once our program of plant improvement and modernization had been carried well along, to begin branching out into the household products field. As a step in this direction, the company plans to introduce roll paper towels and two types of high quality toilet papers, both for the domestic market. Engineering of these products will be perfected shortly, leading to the introduction of these items to the general market some time during the current year.

"Preliminary studies of the potential of this market have been made, as well as pilot studies of consumer response to experimental types of product, indications are that an opportunity exists for the company to compete in this field. It should be noted, however, that while the manufacture and distribution of end products ultimately brings a higher profit than the manufacture of products for conversion, some time will be needed to develop consumer acceptance to the point where sales volume will make a substantial contribution to earnings. A substantial advertising and promotional campaign is being contemplated to help bring this about.

BUILD NEW DAM

"A new dam 325-feet long, providing increased flood discharge capacity at Berlin, N. H., was completed during the year at a cost of $275,000. Designed by company engineers, it is of reinforced concrete construction, providing 170 feet of flood spillway and five heavy flood gates. All gates are motorized, and two may be operated through remote controls at the
power house. This dam replaces the major part of an old dam, built in 1887 of rock-filled timber crib construction, which had deteriorated to a precarious condition during flood periods of recent years. The new unit has a flood discharge capacity of 89,000 cubic feet per second, compared with 18,300 before, and also provides improved river control.

"As reported last year, the company took steps to realize a greater return on its high quality hardwood by creating a sawmill to cut furniture-grade lumber from such logs before using the balance for pulp. During 1953 the sawmill was operated by Heywood-Wakefield Company, a large furniture manufacturer, with advantageous results. After experience had been gained it was determined that a second sawmill could profitably be added to meet the full potential of this operation. The second mill is now under construction. In the future the two mills will be operated in relation to each other, sawing those yellow birch and hard maple logs which are satisfactory for lumber but not for high grade veneer. Such portions of logs which can be sold as lumber or as veneer bring a greater return to the company than if they were used for pulp.

"The company has under consideration a further plan to erect a veneer plant during 1954, in keeping with its program to gain the greatest possible utilization and profit from the products of its woodlands."

The Lewiston Daily Sun

Tewhey, Allshouse

Discuss Pollution

March 17, 1954

River pollution and possible means to combat it were discussed yesterday at a meeting of William F. Tewhey, executive vice president of the Lewiston Chamber of Commerce, and Russell E. Allshouse, chairman of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce.

A clean-up program, to be participated in by both chambers, was discussed. Tewhey said the Lewiston chamber is interested in the pollution problem and he reported he would suggest the chamber select a committee on pollution to work with a similar committee of the Auburn chamber.

It was brought out the two local committees would be able to exchange notes and compare ideas.
MERRILL URGES PEOPLE STUDY PROBLEM OF WATER POLLUTION

Mayor Merle S. Merrill called yesterday on Auburn citizens to better acquaint themselves with problems on conservation of natural resources and to support all sound programs on abatement of water pollution and programs designed to conserve clean waters for beneficial use by mankind and wildlife.

The mayor issued his proclamation in conjunction with National Wildlife Week which is being observed throughout the United States this week.

Mayor Merrill pointed out that this area "now feels the ill effects from contamination of water resources and increased cleanliness of these resources will benefit the citizens of our city through protection of their health, increase usefulness of the waters, increased beauty and value of the community, and expansion of business and industry."

The theme of National Wildlife Week is "Clean waters for all America."

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MAYOR ASKS CLAMOR FOR RIVER CLEAN-UP

Auburn Mayor Merle S. Merrill called for a "loud clamor for clean-up" in an anti-pollution talk last night before the Lewiston Auburn Lions Club at the Elm Hotel.

"The more noise you can make on this issue the better," Merrill said. "It affects the wellbeing and economy of your communities."

Citizens of Auburn and Lewiston should join together and make it their duty to fight for water clean-up, the mayor said, as he developed the theme of National Wild Life Week.

"In our modern day," Merrill stated, "something can be done about polluted rivers such as the Androscoggin. No progressive community can avoid action that would once again bring this river back to a state where it is of benefit to its citizens."

Donald Russell, president of the club, presided at the meeting. The speaker was introduced by J. Dennis Bruno. Representatives from Lions clubs in the central-southern zone will attend a zone meeting April 20. Rev. Clyde Campbell of Yarmouth will be the speaker.
COLBY INSTITUTE CLEANS

THE ONLY 3 OF MAINE STREAMS
POLLUTED, SAYS PROFESSOR

BY STAFF CORRESPONDENT

WATERVILLE, March 29—Only 300 of the 30,000 miles of
rivers and streams in Maine are classified as "polluted," the
Colby College Institute for Maine Industry was told today.

"All our stream pollution problems are confined to barely
1 per cent of our entire stream system," Prof. Walter Lawrence,
head of the chemistry department, Bates College, told the
paper-pulp panel of the Institute at its meeting in Roberts
Union. Lawrence is the administrator under the Maine Supreme
Court's decree on stream pollution in this state.

MAIN RIVERS WORST

Industrial rivers in Maine, the Androscoggin, Kennebec,
and Penobscot, have the highest degree of pollution, Lawrence
said, adding that the problem has been particularly acute at
times in the summer months on the Androscoggin. "There are
three large industries on the Androscoggin, plus several cities
and towns that use it for sewage. Complication the problem is
the presence of 22 dams on the Androscoggin, making it the 'dam-
dest' river in Maine."

But the principal industries on the Androscoggin, including
the big paper-pulp mill at Berlin, N. H., have spent hundreds of
thousands to correct the pollution problem and they may spend
millions in the next few years, Lawrence said. These companies
invested at least $350,000 in "lagoons," or special pools on the
river to hold back their paper waste and release it gradually in-
to the river, "five times as much money is spent by industry on
the Androscoggin each year than all other streams in the state."

There is no single solution for correcting pollution on the
Androscoggin, Lawrence pointed out. Each of the three paper mills
make different products, requiring different forms of correction.
He said that the Brown Company had already invested $100,000 in
a pilot plant to remove one offending agent, "Furfural." He ex-
plained, comes from the sugars in hardwoods and it can be re-
covered and sold as a byproduct to the plastic industry.

"The Brown Company may eventually invest $8,000,000 in a
plant to recover this furfural," Lawrence told the group. "That
$8,000,000 investment in a plant to reduce stream pollution in
Maine is greater than the original value of the paper mills at
Berlin! That shows you what industry is up against if it is
called upon to reduce stream pollution in its area. There is a point at which Maine companies will have to stop or cease manufacturing operations."

One Maine paper company has spent considerable money in extracting the sugars from softwoods, Lawrence stated. "Sugar from softwoods turns out to be vanillin, which is the basis of ordinary vanilla. Why not produce this vanillin commercially and sell it to the extract trade, the companies thought. But it turns out that one Maine paper company can produce enough vanillin in one day to supply the whole extract trade for a year. What would it do with the vanillin produced in the other 364 days?"

**COST TOO HIGH**

Another Maine paper company considered using vanillin as a binder for road-building materials. The New Hampshire State Highway Commission agreed to try it last fall as an experiment. "But the New Hampshire experiment showed that it was cheaper to pay $140 a ton for calcium chloride as a binder than use this vanillin free. The cost of preparing it for the roadwork was prohibitive."
MAINE PEOPLE SHOULD BE AROUSED
OVER THE RIVER POLLUTION SITUATION

By Faunce Pendexter

As the risk of being repetitious on a subject that has been brought to the public's attention time and again, the writer believes it timely to comment briefly on pollution of Maine's inland waters. This is National Wildlife Week and the slogan this year is Clean Waters for America.

What is the record in Maine?

All sorts of statistics could be given to show the seriousness of Maine's pollution problem. But this has been done over the past few years by leaders in the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control organization. These men have offered statistics, provided scientific information that shows what pollution does, and have argued vehemently for the taking of appropriate action to clean up Maine rivers and streams.

In presenting the evidence there have been times when spokesmen for the COPC have waxed bitter. Possibly on a few occasions they have been too personal in attacking the lethargy which seems to prevail in high places. Even if they can be criticized on this score, the facts they have presented cannot be overthrown. If they have appeared too impatient, too expectant of miracles, at least they have had the courage to call for something to be done.

NEED MORE SUPPORT

Thus far their voices have been crying from the wilderness. Maine people generally nod their heads and agree that something ought to be done, but they haven't reached the stage of being willing to pitch in and see that effective pollution control is adopted.

At present chemicals are dumped in the Androscoggin River to cut the smell. These chemicals will not purify the river nor make it clean. Elimination of industrial wastes and municipal sewage only can accomplish this. Similar wishy-washy tactics are employed elsewhere in the State.

And what do our administrative heads think of all this pollution of Maine waters?
Our governors have said little or nothing about it. It might be expected that the Inland Fish and Game commissioner would cry out against continued heavy pollution of rivers and streams. After all it is this pollution which has reduced fish life enormously within the State. Or that the Sea and Shore Fisheries Commissioner would protest what pollution is doing to Maine's clam flats. Or that the Maine Development Commission would urge a quick clean-up.

STILL IS TIME

Governor Cross is the latest of our governors to fail to make a strong stand on the pollution question. He still has time to do so.

The fact is the commissioners of Inland Fisheries and Game and Sea and Shore Fisheries are not hammering hard on the subject presumably must be because they do not dare efusade for clean waters lest the axe should fall.

As for the Maine Development Commission. When it comes to cleaning up Maine's many filthy rivers the Commission might better be given the name the Maine Non-Development Commission. This commission, the goal of which is to promote the Pine Tree State, talks glibly of "making haste slowly," "don't drive our industries out" and "things aren't as bad as they seem."

Strange talk for a body charged specifically with boosting Maine.

It may be that Maine rivers cannot be cleaned up as fast as head of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control think, but our waters never will be free from pollution as long as the attitude of our State government is permitted to continue.

Is our State government captive? It might properly be said that the government should be captive to the wishes of the people. Certainly it should not be captive to any private interest or interests.

WHAT IS THE ANSWER?

What inference can be drawn from the State government's steadfast pussyfooting on the pollution issue? Let each reader judge for himself.

The government of Maine is responsible to the citizens of Maine. It is your government and my government - not the government of a chosen few. Yet on this matter of pollution, it has been a government of which every citizen of Maine has a right to be ashamed.

Maine rivers and streams are the responsibility of the Maine people, but their wishes are not being reflected and have not been reflected in action taken at Augusta. The people can change all this if they will. The power is in their hands, but they must become sufficiently interested and aroused over a despicable situation to enforce their wishes.
It is up to you and you and you whether Maine waterways remain polluted, or whether the Pine Tree State emerges from the Dark Ages on this matter and follows the slogan Clean Waters for America.

Lewiston Evening Journal

March 26, 1954

DR. LAWRENCE TO SPEAK
AT INSTITUTE FOR MAINE INDUSTRY

Dr. Walter A. Lawrence, head of the chemistry department at Bates College and director of the Androscoggin River project, will be one of the main speakers at the Institute for Maine Industry being held at Colby College, March 27.

Preceding his talk on the problems involving Maine rivers, Dr. Lawrence will participate in a panel discussion on "The Fundamental Nature of the National Water Solution." This discussion will place special emphasis on a review of the present stream pollution abatement situation in the United States and the problems involved in industrial and domestic waste treatment.

Other panel members will include Russell L. Winget and Harry W. Gehm, members of the National Council for Stream Improvement from New York; and J. Elliott Hale, superintendent of the Kennebec Water Commission.

Lewiston Evening Journal

INSTITUTE FOR MAINE INDUSTRY

TOLD AGGRESSIVE BELLING MERCHANDISING PROSPERITY KEY

WATERVILLE (AP) **Maine members of the American Pulp and Paper Assn. held a panel discussion of water supply and stream pollution problems.**

Dr. Harry W. Gehm, technical adviser to the National Council for Stream Improvement, anti-pollution involves such heavy expenditures that such projects must be justified on the basis of their true value to the community as a whole."

"The objects of pollution control," he said, are protection of public health, preservation of water quality in respect to usages and prevention of public nuisance.
Pollution control expenditures must be geared to value received in respect to these items."

Other speakers on the panel were Russell L. Winget, executive secretary of the National Council of Stream Pollution, Prof. Walter Lawrance, head of the Bates College chemistry department, and J. Elliot Hale, superintendent of the Kennebec Water District.

Lewiston Daily Sun

March 27, 1954

LAWRENCE TO ADDRESS
INDUSTRY INSTITUTE

The head of the chemistry department at Bates College, Dr. Walter A. Lawrance, will be one of the main speakers at the Institute for Maine Industry to be held at Colby College, March 27.

Preceding his talk on Maine River problems, Dr. Lawrance who is director of the Androscoggin River project, will participate in a panel discussion on "The Fundamental Nature of the National Water Solution." Special emphasis will be placed on methods of abating present stream pollution in the United States and on problems involved in industrial and domestic waste treatment.

Lewiston Daily Sun

March 51, 1954

EDITORIAL

POLLUTION as a STATE ISSUE

With the Republicans moving into Bangor tomorrow for their State convention, we hope the platform-makers are giving some thought to a plank urging that Maine join New England Interstate Water Pollutio Control Commission.

The commission is now made up of the other five New England States and New York. Its chief function is to deal with pollution problems presented by interstate waters, like the Connecticut, Merrimac and Hudson rivers. Maine has two rivers that fall within that category, the Androscoggin and Saco, and the 97th Legislature should vote legislation that will round out the compact.

This problem of pollution is both complex and controversial. There are groups within this State, proceeding from the best of motives, and actuated only by a spirit of public duty, who are aggressively demanding that the State clear up all its
polluted waters in the interests of conservation of wild life. They make no bones of suspecting business and utility interests of obstructing the anti-pollution work out of selfish motives.

There must be some middle ground possible to reach, by which the State can proceed in an orderly way to clean up our water resources, and that means lakes as well as rivers. As a starting point, there is the statement made a few days ago by Dr. Lawrance of Bates College that only 300 miles of Maine rivers are genuinely polluted. First we should see that the classification studies are carried out, and moreover join the interstate compact. This single subject presents a pretty big job for the next Legislature.

The Lewiston Daily Sun April 6, 1934

POLLUTION ORGANIZATION HITS
ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER TREATMENT

Nitrate dumping operations to ease the polluted condition of the Androscoggin River were condemned last night by the State Council of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control at a meeting in Auburn.

In a resolution, the group said the operations supervised by Dr. Walter A. Lawrance, Bates College professor who is the court-appointed rivermaster, are "detrimental to the progress of pollution control in Maine."

The resolution calls for an examination of records to determine why "no legal action has been taken since the court order for water standards in the river have not been complied with." It charges the "entire operations have been perverted into a propaganda campaign by the polluters who finance the project."

In an address to the council, Dr. Norman R. Tufts, executive director of the pollution organization, said Dr. Lawrance recently came out with "more propaganda when he cited the high costs industry pays to reduce pollution in Maine waters."

He said the professor claimed only 1% of Maine streams are classed as dirty, that 500 of the 30,000 miles of streams are in "polluted" category.

Said Dr. Tufts: "The truth of the matter is that all our major waterways in the State are polluted, and 90% of that pollution is from those same big corporations X X X. To get 30,000 miles of waterways in this State, the linear miles of countless tiny brooks must have been included to give the people a false impression. It is neither sensible nor accurate to put out such misleading statements."

Dr. Tufts said the professor also was "mistaken" when he referred to the Brown Company's plan to build a "treatment"
plant to recover the much-publicised furfural, an industrial solvent and nylon precursor.

He said it would not be a costly treatment facility but a new mill in which a profitable product would be manufactured.

"We are disappointed by the attitude of this group of industries as portrayed by Professor Lawrence in his speech," stated Tufts. He urged the professor to remain on the job here so that it can become something more than a "perfuming operation."

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Lewiston Evening Journal     April 20, 1954

TUFTS BLAMES 'SELFISH AND SHORTSIGHTED FEW' FOR WEAKENING NATURAL RESOURCES

A leading figure in the fight to get rid of river pollution in Maine Monday struck out at "the selfish and shortsighted few in power in Maine" who, he said, were undermining "our security by steady inroads on our few remaining natural resources."

Dr. Norman B. Tufts of Auburn, executive director of Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control, delivered the Patriots' Day address at the Lewiston Grange and charged that the "selfish and shortsighted few" were, like Communists, working from within to weaken the area, "thereby directly altering the national picture adversely."

EXTREMELY WASTEFUL

Tufts declared: "the strength of the free world rests, in the final analysis, on the preservation and care of its natural resources. Until recently, we in the United States have been extremely wasteful and destructive in the methods by which we have wantonly wrecked these very elements that are essential to national security.

Highlights of address at Lewiston Grange, Patriots' Day:

"Under the innocent guise of "exploitation", we have allowed uncurbed rapine. Other states now are well on the way toward a sensible and necessary policy of use and not abuse of waters, woods and soil. It is illogical that scientific know-how that produced the H-bomb cannot also solve relatively minor problems of industrial pollution. This is proven by the fact that these other states are solving these bad practises. The least we can do is to follow these progressive areas.

"Those who advocate the present destructive policies now in effect in this state," he continued, "are weakening the strength of this area, and are thereby directly altering the national picture adversely. As the Communists works from within to weaken a country prior to open assimilation, so does the
selfish and shortsighted few in power in Maine undermine our security by steady inroads on our few remaining natural resources.

The polluter renders water unfit for the use of others downstream, so that industrial function is hindered, disease danger is multiplied many fold, and recreation so essential to good living is fatally blighted. This state is at present in a Dark Ages status with powerful and unscrupulous interests intent on preservation of this unhealthy phase.

"Industry and cleanliness can and do exist side by side in other places. It can and must here, with mutual advantages."

Tufts declared:

"The patriot can be defined as one who has a love of country, and is usually associated with military background. But we are doing only a part-time job if we limit patriotism to war. We have a crying need, not for flag-waving patriotism, but for that brand of love of country that seeks untiringly to better and strengthen this nation, this state, and this immediate area by determined and immediate efforts by conscientious citizens to correct the shameful waste of our resources.

The Androscoggin area is the worst example of this deplorable destruction. It has become the "Bunker Hill" of the pollution control fight in Maine. We must have clean water to realize the full industrial development, proper sanitation and rightful recreational and property values that belong to our people. Patriotism therefore does not begin and end with military uniform, but is exemplified by the conscientious citizens who seek to better these and other unfavorable conditions for the benefit, not of themselves, but of community, state and nation.

The Lewiston Daily Sun April 31, 1954

BROWN CO. EXPERIMENTING WITH WASTE SULPHITE; BIG DROP IN 1953 EARNINGS

Furfural May Be Source of Profit and an Aid in Stream Pollution Fight.

1954 OUTLOOK GOOD

PORTLAND, April 30 - Stockholders of the Brown Company were told today that the big paper and pulp company was pioneering in furfural recovery-use of now-wasted hardwood sulphite liquor.

President Laurence F. Whittemore said at an annual meeting that furfural, a synthetic chemical derived from natural
sugars in hardwood, is used in manufacture of nylon and in purification of lubricating oils.

A pilot plant has been operating for several months for study of recovery of the "absolute waste" product.

The president said that apart from the profit which might be realized from furfural- he said its current price is $250 a ton- recovery of the waste "would bring a significant drop in stream pollution from this source."

The Lewiston Daily Sun

TO HOLD CONFERENCE ON WATER POLLUTION

Russell E. Allshouse, chairman of the Civic Affairs Committee of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, has announced that committee is planning a conference in the near future on water pollution. The conference will take place in Auburn.

Allshouse said that in response to an appeal, various Chambers throughout the State have given the Auburn group many encouraging replies, indicating these organizations are greatly interested in cooperating with the Auburn Chamber's program and that it is possible an organized drive for a water clean-up in Maine may result from this interest.

Most recently, the Bethel Chamber of Commerce, through its secretary, Henry H. Hastings, has informed the Civic Affairs Committee of its desire to cooperate fully with attempts to promote abatement.

While as yet, the Lewiston Chamber of Commerce has not officially designated its representatives to confer with the Auburn Chamber's committee, Allshouse said it is felt that before long the two organizations will get together in a mutual effort to combat a problem which affects the health and welfare of all persons in this area.

Lewiston Evening Journal

RESEARCH COMMITTEE POSTPONES HEARING ON WATER POLLUTION

By L. A. Lamieux

A statewide hearing on water pollution, to be held by the Legislative Research Committee, has been postponed from May 18 to May 25.
The State House hearing will be conducted in connection
with the committee's study of the pollution problem and in
order to gather information for a report to be made to the
Legislature in January. Letters of information have been sent
to many individuals and organizations interested in water pollu-
tion, and the general public will be welcome at the session.

Continuing pollution of Maine inland and coastal waters is
a matter which has received more and more attention at the suc-
ceding legislative sessions. It is expected to be an issue in
the political campaigns this year.

CLASSIFICATION

The last Legislature refused to pass a hard-hitting anti-
pollution bill which was sponsored by Rep. Benjamin A. Turner
of Auburn and had the backing of a Statewide group having its
origin in Androscoggin County. The lawmakers did approve, how-
ever, a water classification program sponsored by the Maine
Water Improvement Commission and supported by industry. The
plan is designed to control water pollution over a long period
of 15 years.

Under the act, the Commission was authorized to hold hear-
ings in all areas of the State to get the public's views on
classification of waters and make recommendations to succeeding
Legislatures. Several such hearings have already been held.

The lawmakers also extended the prohibition against new
sources of water pollution to include municipal sewage. Licenses
for such new pollution can be granted by the Commission under
certain conditions.

Standards of classification of waters were set in the 1953
laws. Class A, bath and public water supplies; B, recreational
waters and for use as public water supply if treated; C, free
from chemicals that will kill fish life, scums or odors; D,
waters for transportation of sewage and industrial waste without
creating a public nuisance. The lawmakers wrote into the act a
list of the waters in the upper Androscoggin, Kennebec, Penob-
scot, St. Croix, Meduxnekeag, Aroostook and St. John river ba-
sins as well as some coastal streams which are and must remain
Class A.
PRESS REPORTS
1954

May

Lewiston Evening Journal
May 1, 1954

Maine Politics

POLLUTION CONTROL GROUP
TO BOYCOTT HEARING MAY 25;
CONSIDER IT A WASTE OF TIME

By L. A. Lemieux

The most active anti-pollution group in the State plans
to boycott the Legislative Research Committee hearing in
Augusta.

The citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control As-
association, a group which originated in Auburn, will not be
represented at the May 25 hearing because its leaders feel it
would be a waste of time.

Dr. Norman E. Tufts of Auburn, president of the association
puts the matter very frankly: "We have very little faith in the
Legislative Research Committee, on the basis of past performance."

Instead, the pollution control group plans to sponsor its
own law at the next session of the Legislature, based on the
successful experience of other States which have coped with the
water pollution problem, Dr. Tufts said today. Such research has
already been done and forward-looking legislation will be ready
when the time comes, he says.

The Auburn veterinarian acknowledged that he had received
an invitation from the Research Committee to attend the May 25
public hearing. The Committee is to study the water pollution
problem and make recommendations to the incoming Legislature
in January. In the past, Research Committee recommendations
have not fared too well with lawmakers.
POLLUTION BY-PASS

What is described in the Lewiston Journal's "Maine Politics" column as the "most active anti-pollution group in the state" - the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control Association - may be doing its cherished cause more harm than good by impatience.

The association will "boycott" the Legislative Research Committee hearing in Augusta, May 25, on pollution.

Pollution of Maine inland waters - especially the rivers - was a long time building.

It can be corrected only in a reasonable, long-range program.

Neither industries nor municipalities that have sinned against sanitary waste disposal, have the millions of dollars necessary to clean the waters immediately.

To snub the Research Committee's hearing because in the opinion of association president, Dr. Norman A. Tufts of Auburn, it would be "a waste of time," doesn't look like a good or tactical decision.

PUBLIC SHOULD SHOW INTEREST IN COMING POLLUTION HEARING

By Faunce Pendexter

Today's article is going to be short and to the point. The reason? There is little inspiration for discussing spring sports in light of the ceaseless rainy weather. Racking the grey matter for ideas proved futile except for calling attention to an impending session of the Legislative Research Committee.

The hearing will be centered around pollution control, as noted a week ago in L. A. Lemieux's political column.

It seems to me this hearing warrants the attendance of everyone who is interested in seeing a real beginning made in clearing up Maine inland waters and who possibly can attend. Those who have definite ideas on the subject will have an opportunity to be heard, From the hearing the members of the
Legislative Research Committee presumably will draft recommendations to be presented to the next session of Legislature.

As the Lemieux column noted, the committee has not succeeded too well in the past in putting its ideas across come Legislature time. But this does not in itself make it certain that the present committee will not be able to come up with some sensible pollution correction and control plan that would be acceptable to the legislators.

SHOULD ATTEND

The point the writer would make is this. Whenever or wherever a pollution control hearing is being held in Maine, citizens deeply interested in the problem should make an effort to attend. The only way to secure action that will clean up Maine inland waterways is for the people of Maine to keep pressing for action.

The State thus far has not accomplished much in the way of meeting a most serious problem. One administration has followed another without making an "honest" start toward cleaning up the rivers. Enough has been written about this before to make further observation on the point unnecessary.

Since the foregoing has been the case, it appears evident it will require a mass demand on the part of an informed citizenry to produce results. Legislators will note and take heed if a sufficient number of voters within their town or county indicate their vote for a candidate will depend upon that candidate's stand on a significant issue.

That is why it is important for those who wish to see our rivers and streams restored to something approaching their original unspoiled beauty to attend such hearings as the one which will be held at Augusta May 25.

The sooner Maine people become aroused over the pollution situation and push for action, the sooner such action will be taken. And this seems to be the only hope for securing satisfactory attention to the problem from the government of the State of Maine.

Lewiston Evening Journal

May 25, 1954

CLASSIFYING OF NON-POLLUTED
STREAMS CRITICIZED BY JALBERT;
WANTS ACTION ON ANDROSCOGGIN

By Faunce Pendexter

Augusta - The policy of surveying and classifying waterways in parts of the state where little if any pollution exists, and ignoring the Androscoggin River - "the most heavily polluted river in the state" - was roundly criticized at a pollution hearing before the Legislative Research Committee here today by State

Jalbert was told by Dr. Dean M. Fisher, secretary to the Water Improvement Commission, that the commission was of the opinion that if it concentrated on the Androscoggin it would have no time nor money to classify other waters.

REPORT AWAITED

Also, at today’s well-attended hearing, Fisher explained the New York-New England inter-agency committee which has studied the Androscoggin valley was soon to publish an exhaustive report on the valley.

The Androscoggin River has not been classified by the commission despite its pollution. "We felt," Fisher declared, "we should attempt to freeze in their present good condition as quickly as possible as many streams as possible."

Jalbert then asked how the Water Improvement Commission could feel that progress had been made toward pollution control, when such a major waterway had not been classified.

PROGRESS

"The Commission’s progress is embodied in the accumulation of valuable data with respect to Maine inland waters," Dr. Fisher replied.

He added that the commission would be in a position to offer recommendations to the Legislature this coming spring. He also commented that it was impossible to apply a single classification to a large river like the Androscoggin.

On this point, Dr. Fisher said, "The Androscoggin is a very different river above Rumford than it is below."

Later on in the session Jalbert told the assemblage that not even a start had been made on the Androscoggin River problem. He said he believed that some money should have gone into cleaning up the river, and he declared that unless the State was prepared to take definite action at this coming session of the Legislature, he was certain the matter would be brought directly to the people of Maine.

Members of the Water Improvement Commission said Maine is using "a modern concept of stream pollution control" and is making progress in classifying its waters.

But sportmen’s clubs spokesmen told the Legislative Research Committee hearing that the progress isn’t fast enough, and one called the water classification law ridiculous.

LEAPS AND BOUNDS

Llewellyn Colony of Hallowell, president of the Maine Fish and Game Association, declared that “pollution is growing by
leaps and bounds" and that property values are going down be-
cause of it.

He called for "an orderly program with a time limit - not 25 or 50 years but two or three years" to clean up Maine rivers,
lakes and streams.

He placed "about equal" blame on municipalities and indus-
tries for polluting the waters.

William Parker of the Presumpscot Valley Fish and Game
Association said: "If we lose a little industry through hard-
ship - and I don't think we would - we would more than make it
up through vacation revenue."

He said the start should be made by municipalities install-
ing sewage disposal plants. "If they went ahead as leaders," he
said, "industry could do nothing less than follow."

RIDICULOUS

Dwight Nichols of the Lincoln County Fish and Game Club said
his club believes the "present pollution law is ridiculous piece
of legislation. Something should be drafted that is effective and
fair and would take immediate effect."

Water Improvement Commission members said considerable pro-
gress has been made, although the law under which it works has
been in effect less than a year.

Dr. Fisher said the commission will be "in a position to
offer recommendations on classifying a very considerable amount
of stream mileage" to the 1955 Legislature. Dr. Fisher is Maine
Health and Welfare commissioner.

As waters receive legislative classification, he said, "it
will be the further duty of the Water Improvement Commission to
develop and enforce such orders as may be necessary to achieve
compliance with classification standards."

He added that the commission has a further enforcement
weapon through licensing of industries to deposit wastes in
streams.

Maine's system, adopted by the 1953 Legislature, provides for
classifying waters in four categories: A - unpolluted; B - lightly
polluted but not enough to interfere with fishing or bathing;
C - available for some industrial and sewage use, but not enough
to cause objectionable conditions; D - primarily industrial.

Following this exchange, Roy Weldon, a member of the Water
Improvement Commission, was the next speaker. He spoke only
briefly stressing that the Maine pollution control law with its
classification principal represents the type of pollution control
that has gained widespread approval in recent years in many of
the states which are rated as strongly industrial.
Jalbert asked Weldon how long the people of Maine must wait before seeing results from the application of the Maine law.

Weldon admitted that it was going to take time.

Samuel W. H. Collins of Caribou, chairman of the Legislative Research Committee, presided at the day’s hearing.

Dr. Norman R. Tufts of Auburn, chairman of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control was among those attending the hearing.

The latter part of the morning session was given over to the representatives of various sportmen groups.

The first speaker was James Carr of Richmond, representing the Richmond Sportmen Association. He said that not long ago Richmond people found they were drinking water from the Kennebec River which came to them past Augusta where a processing plant was dumping chicken heads and entrails into the river.

He said, "We couldn't stand chicken soup, even though we had put up with something less than desirable in the way of water supply."

**IT'S TIME**

He said that Richmond citizens demanded and secured a new water supply, but that the cost of this was $61,000. Carr concluded that now is the time to start cleaning up Maine Waterways. He said this should be done immediately and that long range programs should be concerned with cleaning up the debt - not the rivers.

Lou Colony, president of the Maine Fish and Game Association, warned that property values were going down in areas fronting our principal rivers as a result of pollution.

He said the State is losing a tremendous income in terms of recreation because of unclean rivers and streams.

Colony pointed out that Maine is the only state in New England which doesn't have a pollution program in operation. He expressed doubt that any of the State's industries would leave Maine, declaring that a careful check of what had happened in other States failed to disclose that any industries had left them because of pollution control programs.

"We believe that an orderly time limit is needed, but not so orderly as the last 25 or 50 years, because that has been so orderly that the situation has grown worse," he said.

**DENMARK**

Arthur Bucknell of Denmark, representing the Saco Valley Fish and Game Association, declared the situation in his area is bad. He said that while a cleaning up of the rivers may work
a hardship on some industries, the work should be undertaken now.

Bucknell explained, "By this I do not mean this year, but certainly the start shouldn't be delayed or the program carried on over a 10 or 25 year period."

He said that he believed five years should be allowed at the outside to complete clearing Maine rivers of pollution and he recommended copying the programs of States which have accomplished what "should have been done in Maine long ago."

Other speakers at the morning session were; Leonard Royal, president of the Cumberland County Association of Sportsmen's Clubs; Emil J. Morin, president of the Consolidated Sportsmen's Clubs of Maine; Robert P. Millett, vice-president of the Canton Fish and Game Association; Dwight Nichols of the Lincoln County Fish and Game Association; and Harry Miller of the Sebago 31 Club.

Lewiston Evening Journal

EDiTORIAL

POLLUTION MUST GO

How to rid Maine inland waters if pollution is a controversial subject. It took 100 years to become such a menacing nuisance. It's reasonable that dirtying the waters can't be stopped overnight.

A point of agreement was reached at the Legislative Research committee hearing in Augusta - that the State Stream Improvement Commission doesn't have adequate funds to do a thorough job - even in classifying waters.

If the State is serious about stopping pollution - and the next Legislature had better be - it will provide much more than $17,000 which has been available.

Industrial and municipal financial complications also exist.
SAYS POLLUTION LAW ADEQUATE

Spears Declares More Time Needed to Show Results.

Spears

Anti-Pollution Proponents Urge Clean-Up Action at Augusta Session

AUGUSTA - T. F. Spears, a vice-president of the Oxford Paper Co. at Rumford and chairman of the Stream Improvement Committee of the Associated Industries of Maine, yesterday told the Legislative Research Committee here that "present pollution laws are adequate and the regulatory body created by that law should have time to show progress and results."

Spear and other industry spokesmen and members of the State Water Improvement Commission counseled against hasty clean-up action that would bring economic hardship to business and municipalities.

But proponents of a speeding-up of anti-pollution measures, including Dr. Norman Tufts of Auburn, told the committee Maine has no time for delay, and that pollution in some places already presents serious public health problems.

Most spokesmen for fish and game associations took the middle ground at a committee's public hearing. They urged enforcement of present anti-pollution laws and steady progress in classifying waters and gradually cleaning them up.

WANTS NO CHANGE

But they acknowledged the value of industrial payrolls and suggested a co-operative program of improving the quality of Maine's streams and lakes.

Spear urged no change in the current anti-pollution law which has been in effect less than one year but did recommend an increased appropriation for the work of the Water Improvement Commission.

Ample unpolluted waters are available for fishing, he said, and it is important to determine who and how many people are suffering serious effects from pollution and how, and how much, the state's economy has suffered from stream impairment.

He added that "established industrial and resort business has been increasing from year to year and indications point to
even better years to come."

WANTS INDUSTRY CO-OPERATION

Dr. Tufts, president of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control, Inc., told the committee that industries are the bitterest opponents of stream improvement. It is ironic, he said, that pollution is depriving industries of proper processing water, and that in states such as Pennsylvania, where pollution has been checked, industries have realized a net benefit.

He urged an immediate start on improvement of the worst pollution conditions and said scientists have found that polluted water is a major source of many disease germs, including polio.

Tufts urged industry co-operation and said: "For the good will this would engender, it would be a magnificent step for them to take."

Sen. Squire (R-Waterville), author of the new pollution control law, was unable to attend but wrote the chairman, Sen. Collins (R-Caribou) a letter in which he said: "I do think that we should all take into consideration that it took over 100 years to get our waters into this condition and we are not going to be able to clean it up in a few short years. Anti-pollution methods are necessarily slow, tedious and expensive.... "I am writing this to you to express the opinion that any drastic action could well be the 'kiss of death' to some of our Maine industries."

Llewellyn Colomy of Hallowell, president of the Maine Fish and Game Association, said "pollution is growing by leaps and bounds," and that it is forcing property values down.

He recommended "an orderly program with a time limit — not 25 or 50 years but two or three years " to clean up Maine waters. He said industries and municipalities share the blame about equally.

George L. Nelson of Richmond, who said he spoke for the Maine Real Estate Association, said pollution is "affecting the entire prosperity of Maine."

"If we would clean up all our waters, we'd get a million dollars worth of advertising we couldn't get any other way," Nelson said. "And people would come in here and build taxable property."

William Donnell of Bath urged a bill to prohibit any increase in pollution from any source and an immediate start on cleaning up. He suggested a small head tax on every person in a municipality emptying raw sewage into a river or stream, and a tax of an equal total on industry contributing to pollution.

Mayor Brooks Brown Jr., of Augusta and Sen. John F. Ward of Millinocket said it would cost their communities 1 to 1½ million dollars each to install sewage treatment plants.
Harold F. Schumule, vice president of the Central Maine Power Co., and chairman of the Maine Development Commission, said he detected a "more co-operative spirit" in the hearing and "more recognition of the value of industrial payrolls."

"In spite of the bad advertising going out of the state, as of now we have 12,000 more inquiries from outside the state about vacation business than a year ago, and last year was one of our peak years."

Dr. Dean H. Fisher, Health and Welfare commissioner and secretary of the Water Improvement Commission, said the 1953 law classified many waters as unpolluted, and that the commission will recommend classification of many more miles of waters in 1955.

The law provides for four classifications from pure to primarily industrial, and for enforcement of these classifications.

Asked by Rep. Jalbert (D-Lewiston) why the Androscoggin River hasn't been classified, Dr. Fisher, former executive director of the Central Maine General Hospital in Lewiston, said the commission "felt we should attempt to freeze in their present good condition as quickly as possible as many streams as possible," instead of concentrating on one.

CRITICIZED POLICY

Jalbert had roundly criticized the policy of surveying and classifying waterways in parts of the State where little, if any, pollution exists, and ignoring the Androscoggin River - "the most heavily polluted river in the State."

Tufts stated that polluted waters in Maine are preventing new industries from coming into the State for the simple fact that they need clean water.

Other speakers during the session included Robert Millett, vice president of the Canton Fish and Game Association.

The Lewiston Daily Sun May 28, 1954

MAINE'S POLLUTED WATERS

The Legislative Research committee held a lengthy hearing in Augusta on Tuesday on the water pollution problem in this State. And it is stating the obvious to say-everyone interested has known it for a long time-that the answer is a compromise between the industries and municipalities who hitherto have shown small inclination to support a genuine clean-up, and the conservationists and others of like mind who want the thing done in a hurry.
Any study of the laws now relating to pollution will leave one considerably baffled. We once had specific laws barring pollution which were almost never enforced. In the past ten years there have been amendments and modifications and additions to the basic Chapter 72 of the Revised Statutes, plus the establishment of a Water Improvement Commission designed to classify the degree of pollution, so that it is almost impossible to tell now just what the statutes stipulate.

Now, if we can expect a change in the methods of attacking pollution, from the passage of laws that the Attorney General's office fails to enforce, to a program of classification of polluted waters, and then a plan of rehabilitation, we think that represents progress.

And yet here again we must consider the factor of timing. The people who want some speed shown claim at the rate the Water Improvement Commission is working it will take 50 years to demonstrate any benefits. But Dr. Dean Fisher, the commission's secretary, told the hearing on Tuesday that his group will be in a position to "offer recommendations on classifying a very considerable amount of stream mileage" to the 1955 Legislature. And yet, a commission member declares it will "take a long time" to show whether the new system of classification can prove itself.

If the sportsmen's groups are right when they say that pollution is increasing by leaps and bounds, then the system legislated into law last year is an unsatisfactory one. And so far as its anti-pollution restrictions go, there is little evidence to show that the Attorney General is enforcing them.

This whole question presents the Legislative Research committee with perhaps the most complex and difficult of the tasks assigned it by the last Legislature. It must seek to figure out what the law really says. It must determine why the State is not enforcing the laws now on the books. It must weigh the costs that would fall on industries and municipalities if our rivers are to be cleansed, and balance this against an estimate of the losses now being suffered by the State because of unclean rivers and streams.

And when it presents its recommendations, the final arbiter will be the next Legislature. In whatever it does, assuming it does something, its members must go through much the same deliberative process now facing the Research committee. There is no question a solution exists - other States have grappled with the same problem with success - the thing to do is avoid the extremists and alarmists on both sides and make a constructive start which the majority of conservationists, industry leaders and municipal officers can support.
POLLUTION HEARINGS END

There will be no further public hearings on pollution by the Legislative Research Committee. More than a bit confused by the opponents of pollution at this week's hearing, the Committee has decided to gather its own information.

A report will be ready in the fall, according to present plans of Sen. Samuel W. Collins of Caribou, chairman of the committee.

Two facts appear clear at this early date: The Committee will call for a strengthening of anti-pollution efforts; and recommend that the Water Improvement Commission be given adequate funds with which to work. Cross already has indicated that he favors such a position.

***
ASK NEW LAW ON POLLUTION

WIC is Loaded in Favor of Industries, Claims Citizens' Group

Say Current Laws and System of Classifying Streams Are Inadequate

Enactment of a single law on pollution control for Maine waters to replace the "many little and confusing contradictory statutes now being defended by industry" was asked last night in a report by the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control to the State Legislative Research Committee.

The report, made public by Dr. Norman R. Tufts, GCCP executive director, recommended a law with stiff penalties for non-compliance and violation. Such a law, said the report, "must have a time limit that is flexible enough to avoid hardship, yet rigid enough to do the job."

The report also asked for a change in the membership of the State Water Improvement Commission so that industries "cannot control it."

The report was requested by the research committee after last month's public pollution hearing at Augusta. Tufts said it was mailed yesterday to State Sen. Samuel W. Collins of Caribou, committee chairman. Industry will make a report of its own.

NOT HOLDING LINE

The exciting system of classifying streams is expensive, time-consuming and dangerously flexible, said the report. The status of a stream should be frozen so that it cannot be lowered to suit a new polluter or the enlargement of an original plant.

The current laws "are not even holding the line against water pollution," charged the report, pointing to the expansion of existing plants and plans for new ones.
The following industries were listed in order of importance as pollution sources in Maine: pulp and paper, potato starch, canning and textiles. The report said municipal sewage is not important enough to be included on the list.

NO RESULTS

"We do feel from the investigations we have made that only the larger cities or towns on a relatively small waterway would need be affected by clean-up," said the GGPC report.

The clean-up program should be based on treatment of waste sufficient to protect public health, prevent nuisances, and keep fish and aquatic life from being harmed said the report.

The report said;" It is our opinion, after several years research and further study of current events that the present 'approach' to the solution of our grave pollution problems in this State will never result in clean-up becoming a reality in our time.

HUGE WASTE INCREASE

"The present laws are not even holding the line against water pollution. Pulp and paper is currently expanding $150,000,000 worth. This means a huge increase in the waste loads to be released into our already overburdened streams.

"A letter from Roy V. Weldon, a director and chief engineer of the Great Northern Paper Company, tells that the $32,000,000 expansion at that plant does not constitute a 'new source' of pollution, according to present interpretation of our 'adequate' law.

This loophole also applies to other huge growth now taking place in that group of industries, in the big tannery now under renovation at South Paris, to the large potato starch plant at Long Lake in Aroostook, to the frozen foods plant at Caribou and the installation at Rockland, all of which are being enlarged.

LAWS INADEQUATE

"We have more data pertaining to this phase, showing constantly growing pollution loads with no treatment facilities being planned because the current laws permit legal increase in waste loads to our waters. Certainly these cannot be called adequate laws in any sense of the word.

"Furthermore, there is no law now on the books that could give the Water Improvement Commission enough power to enforce abatement to the proper degree, even though that group should decide to act, which seems unlikely.

"Pulp and paper men tell us that this industrial group would pay up to $1,000 daily in fines in order to avoid clean-up, because they do not want to make the capital investment that a treatment plant would entail, even though the by-products from that plant would yield a profit."
"LOADED PRO-INDUSTRY"

"Assuming complete integrity on the part of all the WIC members, we feel that it is loaded pro-industry. It is not likely that a member of the WIC could be counted on to properly enforce action on pollution abatement against the very industry or group by which he is employed or is otherwise connected.

"On the WIC there are no conservation groups, such as are present in the Connecticut Valley Authority, equal to the industrial personnel. We favor more adequate money for the WIC when these aspects are remedied, for only then can we expect a real intent to 'improve water.'"

"Pennsylvania leads the U.S. in clean-up. To accomplish this remarkable feat, the classification force was dumped and clean-up ordered on a flexible basis so that no party or parties was subject to undue hardship."

POSSIBLE FOR ALL

In Pennsylvania, pollution abatement was ordered on an individual basis within a two-year time limit, said the report. At the end of the two years the "attitude of the polluter was weighed in respect to abatement progress."

"We have checked several states that are well advanced in clean-up and have found no industry that has had to move, close, or curtail production as a result of a firm clean-up policy. Municipalities were not embarrassed either," continued the report.

"Engineers tell us that there is not an industry in Maine for which feasible treatment facilities cannot stand the relatively small outlay for these treatment facilities is not a safe bet for the future welfare of the community depending on it.

VIOLATE COURT ORDER

"We are also wondering about these things: Despite the court orders relating to the oxygen content of the Androscoggin River, the records show open violation. The Androscoggin and some lesser streams are interstate waters, subject to Federal intervention relating to pollution from out-of-state sources, but no action has been taken here, either.

"Does the court order 'controlling' the Androscoggin bar activity on that waterway by the WIC? Why has the Water Improvement Commission spent its time and money foolishly studying remote small streams, leaving our badly blighted watercourses wide open to continued and increasing abuse?

"Pollution of our major waterways is adversely affecting the larger part of Maine's population, and it is in these critical areas that immediate and positive action is desperately needed for clean-up."
"We feel that, although there is no overnight solution for the increasing filth load deposited in Maine inland and tidal waters, an immediate start must be made on a reasonable program of pollution control. The longer this beginning is delayed, the higher the cost."

Lewiston Evening Journal  
June 10, 1934

JALBERT SAYS POLLUTION ISSUE  
WILL BE ONE OF MOST IMPORTANT;  
PROMISES TO SEEK SOLUTION

Without a doubt pollution of Maine rivers will be one of the most important subjects at issue before the 96th Legislature, Rep. Louis Jalbert of Lewiston, candidate for re-nomination at the Democratic primaries next Monday, said today.

A fighter to clean up the Androscoggin River since 1940 when he organized meetings to press for action, Jalbert said he would continue to work in that interest, if re-elected.

As a member of the Legislative Research Committee, the Governor's budget advisory committee and the Legislative appropriations committee— all groups to which Jalbert is likely to be re-appointed if re-elected, the representative from Lewiston feels he will be in a position to accomplish something toward bringing about a solution to the problem, "From those committees I will carry the battle to the floor of the House," he said.

Jalbert is now a member of the subcommittee on pollution of the Legislative Research Committee. With Senator Collins, chairman of the whole committee, and Senator Carter, he is working studying the conflicting reports of T. F. Spear, chairman of the stream improvement committee of the Associated Industries of Maine, and that of Dr. Norman A. Tufts of Auburn.

The purpose of the three-man sub-committee was to coordinate the information in the two reports and to draft a recommendation to the 96th Legislature. Jalbert said he would urge submission of the two complete reports to the Legislature, so that all of the information will be available to the legislators, both from the industry side and from the angle of those who blame industry for the pollution situation.

"One answer to the final solution is to appropriate enough money to bring about a full and impartial survey of our waters," Jalbert declared. "The job can't be done with plain talk and no money. Moreover we need a competent, well-financed authority ***
CANDIDATE BLAISDELL
CALLED FOR SOLUTION
OF POLLUTION PROBLEM

The pollution problem must be dealt with "squarely" and "on a reasonable basis," Leuckner G. Blaisdell, Auburn candidate for the Legislature contended today.

In a pre-election statement, Blaisdell said:

"Closest support for citizens' efforts to bring about cleanup of our State's major waterways should be one of the principal pledges of any candidate for State Representative from Auburn.

"With the Androscoggin River carrying the revolting distinction of being one of the filthiest rivers in the nation lapping at our homes, there is no more important issue locally than control of the pollution which menaces the health, business and industries of this area.

"The performance of our past and present legislative delegations at Augusta shows fear, indifference, or at best, lip service for a drive to restore this river and other valuable water resources.

"It is my conviction that Representatives from Auburn can no longer avoid the issue. Nor can they continue pussyfoot tactics. It's high-time we met the problem squarely and dealt with it fairly and on a reasonable basis.

"At the present time, citizen-rights are being ignored and conditions are growing progressively bad along our river and other major waterways in Maine. Until we have Representatives who dare stand-up against the big lobbies and insist on equal rights for all and a program of decency, our waters will only grow dirtier with resulting damage to Maine and its citizens.

"The cry for a change in Auburn representation stems from such issues as pollution. Any person who wishes to do an honest job for Auburn while serving at Augusta must be free and determined to act for the people."
EDITORIAL

JUST HOW

Three Auburn candidates for Republican nomination to the Maine House of Representatives have banded together on a platform of:

Clean Rivers
Adequate Schools
Better Roads
More Jobs
Power Utility Rates

Just how they propose to translate those words into results is a mystery.

They should tell us.
PRESS COMMENTS

1954

The Lewiston Daily Sun August 6, 1954

BRUNO SAYS POLLUTION WORSE THAN SIGNS ON RIVER'S FALLS

The painted signs, "Lewiston beat E.L.H.S. and E.L.H.S. beat Lewiston" on the ledge at the Lewiston Falls may be an eyesore to citizens and tourists but the fact the Androscoggin River is "rated one of the filthiest and foulest rivers in the eastern part of the United States" is even more alarming, said J. Dennis Bruno last night at a meeting of the Lewiston Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Bruno, chairman of the Lewiston Police Commission and long a proponent of pollution control in Maine, made his remarks after the aldermen had voted to request the Public Works Department to "obliterate" the painted signs on the falls.

The writing on the falls was raised by Ward Two Alderman Roger Baril who said it detracts from the beauty of the falls. He said he has noticed tourists stop their cars to examine the falls and take pictures.

"We who live here often take for granted the beauty that nature has given us," commented Baril. "People who live in the plain states, where rivers are few and far between, really are impressed by these falls."

Bruno, a leading member of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control, said he was pleased to see the "city fathers are aware a river does exist here. I hope some day Lewiston will take the leadership to restore the river to its real natural beauty. It's a fact the Androscoggin River is rated as one of the filthiest and foulest rivers in the eastern part of the United States."

The Republican's nominee to the State Senate explained the river several years ago was judged to be a nuisance. Since then the river has been treated with nitrate solutions, but this, according to Bruno, only removes the stench, not the pollution. He said the river is not being maintained according to the standards set up by the court and until greater work is done with pollution in the river, the communities along it will continue to have economic troubles.
He said there is an "interesting aspect" to the river's pollution, since waste from Berlin, N. H., pulp mills is dumped into it. He said the Maine Congressional delegation repeatedly has refused to treat it as an interstate problem.

In response to a query by Alderman Raymond L. Paulin, Bruno said the CCPC has done considerable research and investigative work "and all it takes now is awaking of public opinion."

Mayor Ernest Mellenfent reported the State has spent considerable money in past years on the pollution problem.

"Committees established for this work always were loaded in the interest of those who exploit the waterways," retorted Bruno.

"Then it's up to the Republicans to take care of this," remarked the mayor.

"This problem," stated Bruno, "transcends party lines. There hasn't been one member of our delegation to Augusta who has what can be regarded as a sterling record of fighting in defense of the people who are affected by river pollution."

Bruno said his description of Androscoggin River is: "The sewer of Androscoggin Valley."

The Lewiston Daily Sun  
August 21, 1954

DRAPEAU DECLARES REMOVAL OF "FILTH" IS REAL RIVER ISSUE

More emphasis should be placed on removing the "filth" from Androscoggin River than on the proposal to dredge the channel below the falls to improve flood control conditions, said Lewiston Alderman Lucien A. Drapeau last night.

Drapeau, the Democratic nominee for sheriff, labeled the proposal to dredge the river a "political move." He made that charge Thursday night when a fellow alderman suggested the Board of Mayor and Aldermen pledge its support to the Auburn City Council, which recently instructed City Manager Bernal E. Allen to contact U. S. Sen. Margaret C. Smith to determine whether Federal funds are available for the project.

The Lewiston alderman rejected the suggestion after Drapeau said the issue was raised in Auburn for "political motives."

In a statement, Drapeau said: "While the propaganda artists are attacking my stand on dred-
ing a portion of the river, they could go a step further and reveal the full facts about the issue.

"It seems strange this river issue should be raised during a campaign while the same persons for years have established themselves as the biggest enemies of river improvement we have in this area. If any of the champions for this river dredging proposal were sincere over the condition of our terrible river, they would have before now fought for a real constructive program of ridding the river of filth and pollution.

"None of these dredging 'experts' has attacked the interests along the river which, for years, have monopolized the water rights and, in turn, distributed the chemicals, poisons and sludge that have destroyed the good qualities of the water. These same interests are responsible for conditions creating improper water flowage.

"Why haven't these 'experts' said the river no longer belongs to the people; that the extent of its use by them is regulated by rich interests who fail to carry out their responsibility of maintaining the quality of the water at the same standard from which it originates?

"Why shouldn't these people be made to correct the bad conditions created by their profitable enterprises?

"These people are the offenders, not the citizens whose tax dollars would be used to pay for dredging operations. They've stolen our river. Now they would have us to correct a condition for which they are responsible."

Drapeau contended that removal of the so-called "sheriff's island" below the falls would be only a temporary relief. He said the "sludge and filth" from industries up the river still will accumulate in that region and another island would be built up in a few years.

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Lewiston Evening Journal August 27, 1954

MUSKIE SAYS GOP REFUSES TO ADMIT POLLUTION PROBLEM

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Edmund S. Muskie said today that Maine's Republican leadership "sticks its head in the sand and refuses to admit that there is a problem of pollution."

"It is either unwilling or afraid to face the problem squarely and do something about it," he said in an address.

Muskie, opposing Republican Gov. Burton M. Cross in the Sept. 13 election, said:

"The only action the state has taken has been to classify streams on their degree of pollution and dump chemicals into the rivers to try and reduce the smell."
PRESS COMMENTS

1954

SEPTEMBER

The Lewiston Daily Sun

September 9, 1954

Partition of Speech

by

Edmund S. Muskie

STREAM POLLUTION

Muskie advocated creation of a State department of conservation—insulated from politics—and a citizens advisory council to "rehabilitate Maine natural resources which 50 years of Republican rule has squandered."

He said wastefulness and failure to take remedial action has left Maine with:

40 percent of New England industrial (stream) pollution.

A slump in the natural birth rate of game fish.

Forest conservation neglected to a point where much of the yield is "only pole timber."

Coastal fisheries which have been allowed to deteriorate.

Muskie said facts in each case "will show the utter bankruptcy of the present state leadership."

He said poor conservation cuts into commercial fishing, recreational business and forest industries and even poses menace to health.

"The people of Maine have a right to expect state administration to do something about all these conditions," Muskie said. "Nobody knows more than I do that this must be a long-term program. But that is no excuse for postponing the moment of starting."

"All I ask is that you give me a two year term as Governor so that a start may be made toward an intelligent, consistent, long-range conservation policy for the first time in our 184 year history as a state," Muskie said.
EXPLORE CLAM CULTIVATION

The Democrat said the citizens advisory committee should be enabled to study costs and results of anti-pollution programs in other states and report on Maine's needs; also to look into promoting natural propagation of game fish.

A laboratory and extension service should be created to find use for wood waste, Muskie said, and New Hampshire's forest yield tax should be studied for possible adaptation to Maine's individual needs.

Muskie said clam and quahog cultivation, and purification when dug from polluted flats, should be explored and the state should aid fishermen wherever possible to form cooperatives for storing processing and marketing fish.

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PRESS COMMENTS

Lewiston Journal Magazine Section  September 18, 1984

POLLUTION CONTROL IN MAINE AS
SEEN BY DR. NORMAN R. TUFTS

By Dr. Norman R. Tufts

(Editor's note: The following article by Dr. Norman R. Tufts, head of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control, Inc., is presented in the belief that it offers much in the way of education on Maine's pollution problem. In the case of views expressed in the article, the opinions are those of Dr. Tufts based upon his personal study of the problem.)

To pollute is to make physically foul or unclean, dirty, stain, or desecrate. Pollution has done all these things to 90% of our major rivers and streams, all that are large enough or so located as to be of any practical consideration.

One of the early examples of pollution and the mechanisms that are set into motion by that act can be illustrated by what may have happened in the days of the Indians. Here, between Auburn and Lewiston on the Androscoggin, the Indians from wide-flung eastern areas came to catch and process fish. At West Pitch, near the falls, was the favorite spot for spearing and curing salmon, sturgeon, and other sea-run fish.

As the men tossed the sleek fat salmon onto the shore, the squaws pounced upon them and prepared them for curing, the entrails were thrown into the river, and those portions that escaped the gulls were carried downstream and were early pollution.

CLEANUP PROCESS

As these fish left-overs proceeded downstream, microorganisms that are always present in water began to consume this foreign material. This process of digestion or neutralization consumed oxygen which was used by these microorganisms for their work. The amount of oxygen required by these tiny organisms depended upon their number, the type and amount of material present, and the time needed to render the fish remnants harmless to the waters. Sunlight through the clear waters acted on aquatic vegetation, which helped use some waste products present in the water for its growth, the plants in turn giving off a plentiful supply of oxygen. Falls, rapids, and contact of the moving surface of the river with the air added substantially to the oxygen content of the river. Therefore there was at all times abundant aeration to furnish the microorganisms with more than enough fuel to carry on their functions in waste neutralization, and finally the mess was completely dissolved.
and harmless to the waters.

A band of hunters killed a deer. They dressed the carcass, and perhaps threw the unused remains into the river. Again a similar process of purification was completed, leaving the river clean and capable of neutralizing. But always there was enough oxygen in relation to the waste load the next assault on its purity, so that this defense mechanism was never impaired, and with reasonable use this waterway would never have become foul.

THEN CAME MILLS

Now picture a sawmill springing up, somewhere upstream. In those days, a sawmill meant houses, barns, a village. It meant boards for floors instead of earth. It was civilization and living instead of an animal-like existence, and the river was there to take care of the first industrial waste. Again, the tiny organisms went to work, but wood waste was a tough proposition, and required more time. Therefore the sawdust and bark began to accumulate in the slack water and eddies, forming growing sludge beds. The oxygen-loving microbes couldn't live and do their work here under the mill-waste piles, and a different group of microorganisms took over the process of combating this early pollution. These were the anaerobes, or microbes that did not need or like oxygen. They do not do as clean a job of decontamination, for they give off a poisonous combination of gases as they work, mostly hydrogen sulfide.

Later the fine evergreen forest that protected our watersheds attracted lumbering and pulp and paper industries. These outfits continued to discharge their wastes into the river, and in addition, dams were thrown across our waterways, and the Atlantic salmon, sturgeon, and shad runs were thoughtlessly destroyed by pollution and dams.

EFFECT of DAMS

The dams slowed the swift waters. Fast water can carry a huge waste load, but as the water slows, this carrying power is reduced, releasing the load to settle out behind our power dams and in other slow water areas in the form of sludge beds. No longer dashing over the ancient ledges, the river does not gather vast quantities of oxygen from the air to help fight contamination. The relatively stagnant water also begins to warm from the sun, further depleting the vital oxygen supply. At the same time this new warmth gives great stimulus to the anaerobic microbes. The growing sludge beds are now well-inoculated with bacteria from human sewage, and the above activity makes itself known with the familiar odor along the Androscoggin.

(The following is a description under the picture printed in this article)

THE ANDROSCOGGIN - The above picture graphically details the amount of pollution that comes down the Androscoggin during high water. The small circular areas are spots where the gases from the pollution have come to the surface.
This can further be illustrated by what happened during a pollution hearing that took place on the Ohio River back in 1939. Some mill men had claimed that their wastes were not harmful to a waterway at all, that in fact fish lived right in the outlet of their mill wastes. This misleading bubble was promptly punctured by the clean-up forces.

These alert gentlemen pointed out that directly below a pulp mill, fish may continue to live because at that point enough oxygen is present in the water to support them. But as the microorganisms gather in the wastes from these mills as it flows downstream, more and more oxygen is consumed by them in the neutralization process, until some distance down river nearly all the oxygen is used up, and an oxygen-lacking area results. As this unhealthy condition is reached, the fish must leave or die, the oxygen-loving microbes cease function or die, and are replaced by the types that perform best without much oxygen. The noxious gases arising give evidence that the anaerobes or oxygen-hating bacteria are at their slow work.

Dams then slow the water, and sludge from these mill wastes settles to the bottom of the river faster than the defense mechanism of the water can take care of them. The normal healthy river has been changed into something far different; something far less valuable to industry, community, or anything else.

**SEWAGE PROBLEM**

Human sewage is of course pollution, but after reaching a river the bacteria in it and in the water itself aid in rather rapid detoxification. Being further diluted by the stream, tumbling over rapids and falls and with exposure to sunlight and oxygen, human sewage is soon rendered harmless in a relatively clean river. However, in a waterway already overloaded with industrial or more municipal wastes, these forces for good cannot work properly. The sludge beds become well inoculated with intestinal bacteria, viruses, protozoa, molds and the like, and sewage detoxification is retarded and extended over a much greater area, creating more objectionable and potentially dangerous conditions.

In other states that are far ahead of Maine in clean-up, it was found that after massive industrial waste load had been properly treated by the responsible industry, the degree of treatment necessary for human waste could then be determined. In most cases, only larger cities or communities on a relatively small stream would have to treat their wastes. Again, in many instances this could be accomplished with a minimum of expense by simply primary treatment, followed by chlorination of the liquid to remove the disease danger. This may be compared to a septic tank at the end of a sewer outlet, with a chlorinator for final disinfection. Many homes and summer camps have septic tanks that cost the users more than this type of sewage treatment would on a per capita basis.

An interesting relationship exists between the microorganisms that live and work in the absence of oxygen, and the availability of some form of sulfur. The familiar nauseous odor of hydrogen sulfide that hangs over the Androscoggin is readily produced due to the action of these bacteria. A plentiful supply of sulfur is assured due to the waste sulfite liquor that is sent down the river in tremendous quantity from the pulp mills.
Of the 90% industrial waste in our major rivers, about 87% is from pulp and paper mills as surveyed in the Androscoggin by engineers, and these ratios do not appear to vary too much in other streams such as the Presumpscot, Kennebec and Penobscot. Up north in Aroostook County the manufacture of potato starch leaves their streams in similar condition to those about us. Actually, human sewage as a major problem is confined to coastal, northern and small-stream areas.

SALTWATER BEACHES HIT

Nearly half our famous saltwater bathing beaches are unclean. It should not be assumed that saltwater acts as a disinfectant. Saltwater generally contains less oxygen than fresh water, thus slowing the action of decontamination. Dilution and tidal action are the major methods that help refresh and cleanse our coastal areas to some degree. A sort of re-pollution can occur along our ocean beaches if the right tide and wind stirs up the sludge that may have been deposited in deeper water, or if these elements combine to change the course of contaminated river currents. All rivers lead to the sea including the pollution that is dumped into them along the way. Thus a trick of wind or tide can flood an ordinarily clean bathing or shellfish area with contamination.

Pollution is costing our once-prosperous shellfish industry about one million dollars yearly in lost revenue. Of a total of 100 closed clam flats along the New England coast, Maine leads with 88 closures.

It is also becoming evident that our out-of-state visitors are coming here from states that are far advanced in clean-up, and they are not favorably impressed about swimming in diluted sewage, near a closed clam flat, or observing a beach like Pine Point that at times has unclean material littering the sand.

DIRTY WATER EXPENSIVE

Pollution is costing industries money, too. They have had to improvise in many cases to get clean processing water. This costs money for those operating here, adds to their already high power rate, and is not at all attractive to those which might be considering moving here to the Pine Tree State.

Real estate values along our polluted watercourses are much reduced. Few recreational facilities, hotels, camps, or other taxable property are located along these blighted areas to help the towns and cities with their tax loads. Farmers have to haul water from clean sources during periods of drought, because in many places the water is unfit for domestic and livestock uses.

Flood waters leave a destructive crust of pulp fibers coated on crop and grazing land, destroying crops and land use for a considerable time. Land along the river that is owned by these people might in many cases bring in relatively high prices when sold for camp and building lots, providing a new source of income to our hard-pressed rural citizens as well as additional tax income to our municipalities.

The recreational benefits to be realized from clean-up are often belittled but that is one industry in Maine that continues despite the mismanagement of our saleable assets in this field. Last year we are said to have taken in 200 million dollars from this
source, when it could and should go five times that amount.

MAINE'S RECORD

In order of progress in clean-up, we find Rhode Island in the lead, the fight to pass an adequate law being won in about three months. Gov. Pastori demanded action of agencies in charge of pollution control. "Quit Stalling and Clean up" was the headline in the "Providence Journal." Pennsylvania's Gov. Duff cried "Let's Outlaw Pollutions." Maine's Gov. Cross says, "We can expect considerable progress in pollution abatement in the next 10 years."

Next to Rhode Island, Connecticut shows definite actual progress, and from there comes the statement that no industry has been forced to leave Connecticut due to clean-up, and in no case did costs for treatment facilities exceed one of the wholesale cost of the manufactured product. Vermont has ordered pollution abatement by industry and a few municipalities by 1955. Massachusetts is next, followed by New Hampshire. Maine ranks last.

Opponents to clean-up call the present Maine laws adequate. The truth is there are many conflicting and vague statutes, none of which will result in proper pollution abatement in the near future. Maine is saddled with an administratively difficult, ineffective and expensive program that was passed by the last legislature. It depends on classification of streams and rivers.

To classify the waters of Maine, the Water Improvement Commission takes samples of the various waters, determines the amount of pollution present at several places along a stream, then decides the type of classification it will recommend to the next legislature. Then the legislators, many of whom know little or nothing about water pollution, pass the recommendations into a law that lacks sufficient teeth. This can go on for years; study, classify, recommend, legislate, over and over. There is no time limit. All this is being done on a budget that all parties concerned admit is not adequate to do the job. Here is the story of classification, briefly.

CLASSIFICATION

Class A Water: Clean water safe to drink right from the brook bank.

Class B: Reasonably clean water, fit for all recreational uses, will support valuable food and game fish, ideal processing water for industries, good water supply for municipalities with filtration and chlorination. Richmond, for example, had to dig up $61,000 a couple of months ago. This large sum was needed to change their municipal water supply over from the rapidly degenerating Kennebec to a new water supply source. Or put it this way: Class B water for the Kennebec would have saved Richmond $61,000 this year. This has happened since the so-called "adequate" law was passed, and the incident speaks for itself.

Class C: Dirty water, strictly an industrial river. At best, this classification is nearly that of low "B", but you can see that it becomes more and more polluted, it may be nearly "D", but still be legal. This division is much too flexible, and actually provides but little restriction on pollution.

Class D: Dirty water. An industrial river, suited for the transportation of wastes without nuisance. The Androscoggin from Lewiston down is Class D.

Class E: Dirty water. The Androscoggin after the spring
freshet.

This leaves us with two classifications that are "clean", and therefore desirable and necessary: Classes A and B. The others, Classes C, D, and E, are all dirty, varying only in pollution and amount of nuisance that results. These are obviously not only a detriment to areas around them, but are shameful and unnecessary and should not be tolerated by any state or region. Class A waters are wonderful to have, but are not feasible where industry is present because they would demand too expensive and elaborate a set-up on the part of the polluting source. Class A waters therefore would not fit the sensible conception of "use but not abuse" of our water resources. That leaves Class B waters which are reasonably clean, yet subjected to use for sensible and proper waste disposal that does not seriously alter water quality for the next user downstream.

One state phrased proper stream use as "Be a good river-neighbor."

Concerning the classification system itself, we find that the status of a stream is not in reality frozen, so that water quality can be easily lowered to fit industrial expansion or even a new plant with a corresponding increase in waste load. According to the Federal Security Agency, this system is not all that it should be.

The process of classification is administratively difficult and time consuming. Further, the FSA says that classification once made are hard to change, and tend to create vested interests. Also, the tendency will be to reduce waters to the level of more carriers of waste because of the pressure of special interests.

PRESENT LAWS INADEQUATE

As described previously, there are some who say that our laws on pollution control are adequate, but the facts hardly bear out this contention. One such law provides for the issuance of pollution permits to industrial plants and municipalities which seek to discharge untreated wastes to our waterways. This law, specifies that plants existing and polluting prior to 1945 have continued authorization to pollute. A new mill erected on an old site is also exempt from control.

An industry may expand its production and therefore its waste load without legally constituting a "new source", or it may hook on to an old or abandoned sewer or outlet and still not constitute a "new source", and therefore be free to pollute. Thus pollution conditions have steadily worsened through these loopholes in the law. The Federal survey of 1951 stated that "The State of Maine does not have adequate legislation to enforce a comprehensive program of pollution prevention and abatement..." We still do not.

INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION

The most extensive damage to our major stream systems in this state has been caused by wastes from industries. Heavy volume and severe oxygen demand make these wastes extremely destructive for long distances downstream from the offending plants. In order of importance are the following waste sources:


A tremendous amount of sawdust, slabs, edgings, bark, and the like is blown, bulldozed, or otherwise introduced into our stream system by sawmills, plastics, woodworking plants and pulp mills, but this has not been accurately estimated as yet. The third position in the
above list, occupied by potato starch plants, does not truly portray the conditions that exist in Aroostook waters below these regional plants.

Engineers tell us that in Maine there is not a major polluting waste that cannot be treated satisfactorily. In many instances, profits ranging from high to slight may be realized from by-products resulting from treating industrial wastes. This is especially true of the pulp and paper types, even warranting construction of new manufacturing plants for processing for highly profitable materials that can be made from the chemicals that now pollute our waters. They further state that a mill may now have a choice of methods and processes to use, and that adoption of one of these treatment processes is the responsibility of each mill before it releases its wastes to hamper the next water user downstream.

In many cases, substitute processes have been developed for solving textile waste problems without a treatment plant at all. In other types of textile manufacture these wastes may be discharged into the municipal sewerage system for treatment right along with the human sewage, helping the municipality by bearing part of the cost of a treatment plant, and eliminating the need of a separate textile waste treatment facility. Such a plan has been surveyed and found feasible for Augusta.

HUMAN SEWAGE

Pollution from human sewage is not a great problem in our major rivers, yet it is a problem because of the health menace connected with the poor sanitary environment our many open sewers create. Several Maine communities now treat sewage, and more are well on the way. According to the 1950 survey, Cape Elizabeth Park now treats its wastes, as does progressive Freeport. A direct benefit with dollars and cents return was the reopening of Freeport clam flats the year following the installation and operation of this treatment plant. Among the benefits derived from the complete treatment plant at Cape Elizabeth Park is the preservation of the cleanliness of the sea beach there. The Spurwink River takes the wastes from that area to the vicinity of Higgins Beach, and the results can be imagined if complete treatment were not in operation at Cape Elizabeth Park.

The York Beach region has increased its recreational potential immeasurably with a treatment plant that assures clean beaches to its visitors and residents. One of our most famous saltwater resort areas reported empty cabins at the height of the tourist season last year. People are becoming pollution-conscious, and the clean areas will be the popular — and profitable — places.

Many of the problems connected with municipal sewerage systems are the direct result of lack of proper planning on the part of municipalities and sewer districts. This lack of foresight exists today.

There are many diseases that are present in human wastes. Among them are: Poliomyelitis, typhoid, diphtheria, coxsackie virus, infectious hepatitis or epidemic jaundice such as recently occurred in an epidemic at Fowmal State School (where all the raw sewage is discharged untreated to the Royal River, making the State itself a major pollutor), cholera, various dysenteries from the "48-hour flu" to the more serious amoebic and bacillary types, and others. Also under study are the fumes from industrial wastes that are present in the air. Research is being carried on to determine their possible influence in lung cancer, heart disease and other serious menaces.
to human health. Fumes that will peel paint certainly cannot be considered beneficial to health.

PROFITS of CLEANUP

Rag and many times non-factual costs have been advanced as price of cleanliness, but on a national basis, even the fanciest sewage treatment plants have cost a family unit of four people only five cents a day, little more than a cent a piece. It is safe to say that one working day lost because of illness would on the average more than pay a year's sewer assessment. Most waterborne or transmitted diseases run into much longer periods of sickness. Some of these same diseases can cause serious illness that can cripple and kill.

It would seem to be an obvious truth that we cannot afford not to clean up. We haven't stopped buying soap just because it costs money to be clean. But it is a sad truth that our sanitation is suffering equally from long neglect and lack of planning. The longer proper progress along these lines is delayed by "taking poor the less benefit and more cost will result, for these are issues that must be faced.

In other states clean-up has become reality, or is well on the way. Despite warnings to this effect, no industries have been closed or hampered, nor have any municipalities gone under because of pollution control. Pennsylvania, the second-largest industrial state in the nation, has proved that it costs more to have polluted waters than it does to have clean ones. Engineers there report they cannot keep up with the industrial construction going on along formerly shunned riverbank areas.

The same objections given in Maine to clean-up were voiced there, but Pennsylvania was fortunate in having a fighting governor. Governor Duff said, "Let's outlaw pollution" and he meant it. Inaccurate predictions were heard about the length of time it would take for a river to purify itself, even if pollution control were inaugurated. Weird figures such as are heard about the ANDROSCOGGIN were put out: "It will take 25 years" - "can't be done and industry will have to move" - "municipalities will go broke" and so on. But it has been amply proved that such statements are not in accordance with fact.

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE

Picture a river like the ANDROSCOGGIN. Adequate pollution control laws have been passed and are being enforced. Treatment plants are ordered within a reasonable time for the industries along the river, starting at the headwaters and working down.

Two years later, this river like the ANDROSCOGGIN has become clean enough for the stocking of brown trout. Instead of moving a pulp mill on the river has been able to increase production because of the availability of clean processing water following clean-up. Once the vast industrial waste load had been removed to a reasonable degree, the municipalities were able to intelligently determine the degree of treatment necessary for the human sewage, and in most cases no fancy plants were necessary.

The river now has oxygen and clean volume enough to handle and detoxify a reasonable amount of wastes without trouble. The sludge beds, as on the ANDROSCOGGIN, had piled up behind power dams and in slack water areas and were several feet deep. This decreased water storage and hampered river control. Fumes corroded metallic fixtures
in hydro-electric plants, adding expense to electric power generation. Now, four years later, there are more traces of the once-extensive sludge beds; and a river like the Androscoggin is clean—and safe to swim in! Reports are that new construction along its banks is amazing, and that river-front property prices have zoomed, alike for residential, recreational and industrial uses. This in two to four years along a river like the Androscoggin. The best part about this is that this river is not imaginary. It is a living reality. It is clean, and once more useful to everyone. It is the Clarion River in Pennsylvania.

An interesting anecdote comes out of the Keystone State and its successful clean-up fight. A group of engineers was testifying before a legislative committee concerning the feasibility of pollution control on a certain highly polluted river. In apparent good faith they testified that this river simply presented too many obstacles and was too grossly polluted to ever remedy its condition. Then, in the evening paper, right beside their testimony about the impossibility of clean-up there, was their bid for the job of cleaning up that 'impossible' river. One of these men later reported that the engineers themselves were utterly amazed to see the speed and thoroughness of purification exhibited by that grossly polluted waterway. Four years later, it supports an increasing run of sea shad, trout, bass and other valuable game fish. They think that the Androscoggin River presents little "real" difficulty regarding clean-up, either financially or in the time required. And they should know.

**Pollution Expensive**

Polluted water is little better than no water at all. The following will serve as illustration. A textile mill on the Androscoggin River can no longer use the water for processing without first treating everybody's water. They have to pay for water. They have to pay prohibitive charges. But this mill has to buy $10,000 worth of water annually. Another has to pipe overland some distance to a small stream at considerable cost to get clean processing water. It has cost another mill $500,000 to install a filter so it could get its vital water for manufacturing use.

Many of these mills could hook up to a municipal waste disposal system without building their own disposal plants. If the upstream mills cleaned up, the river could provide all the clean water they might need, water they now have to buy or expensively treat for use. Is this helping to keep our textile mills from moving South?

A big pulp and paper mill recently announced a new process whereby it can take in $5,000 daily, using a river-destroying waste as a raw material. Can you call this "hurting" industry by clean-up? It means more jobs in building treatment or manufacturing plants for waste products now killing our rivers. It means new industries, attracted by easily available clean water for manufacturing use.

The three basic natural resources that built this State were our rivers, fisheries and forests.

Who would have believed that the time would come when Maine would have to import Japanese shellfish? Sea and Shore Fisheries estimates that pollution costs the shellfish industry of Maine a million dollars annually.

How many millions of dollars has it cost this State to lose the priceless Atlantic salmon, shad and other valuable sea-run fish because of pollution? How many people could live from the
jobs provided by our fisheries were they restored? Now add this to the tourist income that we do not get because these magnificent fisheries no longer exist here, plus the expensive hatchery program that we have been forced to sustain with tax money because 75% of the natural spawning grounds have been wiped out.

Right now, pollution is costing Maine people untold millions of dollars yearly. Put a dollar sign on disease. How much sickness could be eliminated if our most highly polluted rivers were cleaned up? Sludge and corrosive chemicals spell out high power rates. These up the expense of clean processing water for industry. We see our municipalities, one by one, being forced to convert, at great expense, to other sources of water supply, for the point is being reached wherein it is no longer possible to remove the massive pollution from these waters.

Other states are doing the job. It has reached the point where being unclean is costing more than it would to be clean, if we must justify by dollar signs rather than by right or wrong. There is no point in remaining backward when it costs more than progress. We buy highways, homes and schools on the installment plan, so that we have the use of these things as we pay. We can achieve clean-up the same way, and easily handle the small installment payments as we use the tremendous benefits. Thus it is not only possible but desirable and necessary to "Make Maine Clean" in our time.

The Lewiston Daily Sun
October 7, 1954

Editorial

AN ANTI-POLLUTION STEP

Industries, utilities, and other economic interests in Maine are often berated for allegedly displaying no interest in pollution abatement, so it is only fair to give business men credit when they do adopt anti-pollution policies.

The most recent heartening example of industry action to clean up the State's rivers and streams is the contract signed between the University of Maine and the National Council for Stream Improvement, an organization financed by pulp, paper and paperboard mills.

Under this contract, the university will conduct research into waste treatment methods that can be applied to the Maine pulp and paper industry. In particular, the university will try to find a successful way of treating sulfite liquor, the residue of the sulfate paper-pulp process.

This will be a difficult task, because so far 10 years and a quarter of a million dollars have been spent without avail. The university, however, will have a try at it, beginning by studying what has been done in this country and abroad, to see if somehow a new formula can't be found that will make it profitable to re-use the liquor.

Even the most outspoken enemies of water pollution ought to be
pleased to see this step taken. It may not be a success, and it is not all that should be done, by any means. But at least it shows good faith on the part of Maine's big pulp and paper mills and effectively refutes charges they are indifferent to our dirty rivers.

Lewiston Evening Journal October 4, 1954

Editorial

TO STUDY PULP WASTE

An important study into waste treatment methods for the Maine paper and pulp industry will be made, it was announced today at the University of Maine.

The State University has signed a contract with the National Council for Stream Improvement to make this research.

Pollution of Maine waters is not confined to paper and pulp waste. Cities and towns are guilty of adding to the pollution.

It will take time to correct this deplorable condition - but it will be accomplished.

The move by the University of Maine is encouraging.

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Lewiston Evening Journal October 4, 1954

U. OF MAINE. TO CONDUCT RESEARCH TO DEVELOP WASTE TREATMENT METHODS FOR PULP-PAPER MILLS

ORONO - Dr. Ashley S. Campbell, Dean of the College of Technology, University of Maine, announced today the signing of a contract between the University of Maine and the National Council for Stream Improvement (of the Pulp, Paper and Paperboard Industries) Inc., under which the university will conduct research to develop waste treatment methods applicable to the Maine pulp and paper industry.

Specifically, the university will study methods for treating the waste liquor from sulfite pulp mills with particular reference to river conditions in Maine. This problem is a difficult one that has baffled researchers from industry and research institutions, alike, for many years. The National Council and other similar organizations in the industry have spent a quarter of a million dollars over the past 10 years on research without arriving at a generally applicable and economical method of treating this waste.

The first phase of the work will include a critical evaluation of proposed and existing methods of treating pulp mill waste both in this country and in Europe to specific conditions here. This study will be under the direction of the staff in the department of chemical engineering where teaching and research studies in pulp and paper technology are carried out.

The National Council for Stream Improvement, which is sponsoring the project in behalf of the Maine pulp and paper industry, was
organized in 1943 to conduct research looking to the solution of the pulp and paper industry's stream improvement problems. This organization, whose membership includes 95% of the pulp, paper and paperboard production of the United States, currently sponsored research at 10 outstanding research institutions in the United States on various phases of the industry's stream improvement problems. These institutions included Oregon State College, Bates College, Louisiana State University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Rutgers University, University of Michigan, Kalamazoo College, Purdue University, Syracuse University and the Institute of Paper Chemistry.

While for many years each pulp and paper mill in the state has carried on its own investigations of its individual position, this is the first time that all of them, acting together within the structure of the National Council, have subjected their overall waste disposal problems to cooperative large-scale, state-wide, intensified study by a Maine institution. A study of certain technical aspects of the problem has been supported by the national organization for several years at Bates College.

It is hoped that the research at the University of Maine will point the way to a solution of this important industry's stream improvement problem in the state. Not only is the pulp and paper industry in the state, the largest manufacturing industry, but also its importance in the national economy is indicated by the fact that in paper and paperboard production Maine ranks sixth among all the states, being exceeded only by the States of New York, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

Lewiston Daily Sun

October 14, 1954

BATES COLLEGE
DOING RESEARCH

Assigned Problems On
River Pollution By
Pulp-Paper Group

Work Has Had Much To Do
With Killing River Odor;
Make Continued Improvement

BY EDMUND A. MACDONALD

Bates College is one of 11 institutions in the United States undertaking research dealing with stream pollution problems arising in the pulp and paper industry. Dr. Walter A. Lawrence directs the Bates project.

Recently the University of Maine announced the signing of a contract with the National Council for Stream Improvement expanding the Council's extensive research program by initiating research
designed to study the various treatment and disposal methods for sulphite waste liquor which may be applicable to Maine pulp and paper mills. The National Council, supported entirely by the pulp and paper industry, was organized 11 years ago to initiate and consolidate research on the numerous pollution problems of the industry.

The pulp and paper industry was the first to recognize on a national scale the necessity for reduction of pollution and to create an organization for this purpose. The Council approached the problem on a national scale and after preliminary surveys allocated research problems to various prominent college and universities of which Bates College is one.

LIST COLLEGES

The magnitude of the Council's program is indicated by the projects being studied at the present time in the following institutions.

- Oregon State College and Bates College: Sulphite effluents, heat hydrolys, biological oxidation under the direction of Dr. G. W. Gleason and Dr. Walter A. Lawrence.
- Louisiana State University: Sulphate effluents supervised by W. A. Maggio.
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute: Semi-chemical effluents, Chemical engineering studies directed by Dr. F. C. Vilbrandt.
- Rutgers University: White water effluents, from 1948 to 1953 directed by Dr. Willem Rudolfs and now by Dr. Harold N. Orford.
- University of Michigan: Stream flow analysis reported by Prof. C. C. Veiz.
- Kalamazoo College and Western Michigan College: Treatment techniques of waste paper effluents directed by Dr. A. H. Nadelman and Mr. A. J. Palladino.
- Purdue University: Strawboard effluents supervised by Prof. Don N. Bloodgood.

PUBLISH BATES FINDINGS

Institute of Paper Chemistry and Oregon State College:
Aquatic biology conducted by Dr. Willis M. Van Horn and Prof. R. E. Dimick.
- Syracuse University: Rehydration of hydrogels under the direction of Dr. Ernest Reed.

Of particular local interest is the work done at Bates on sulphite waste liquor, the oxygen-nitrate relationships and a chemical method for determining time of river flow. The nitrate studies have been published in the scientific journals and this method of adding nitrate as a source of oxygen is now being used both in this country and abroad.

A committee in West Germany under the chairmanship of Dr. Imhoff, requested and received a copyright release to translate and publish the nitrate studies for circulation to government and municipal departments and various industries in Germany. Dr. Schults in West Germany has recently studied these results in relation to certain problems in that area.

COUNCIL FINANCED

Many Twin City residents may not be aware of the significant scientific work on pollution which has been carried out at Bates College with the financial support of the National Council for
Stream Improvement. This important work has been in progress for eight years and is being continued.

The work at Bates has been devoted to the fundamental study of the effect of sulphite waste liquor on the character of the water in the river. It is only through an understanding of the fundamental reactions which take place in the river water that an ultimate solution of the pollution problem may be sought.

Citizens of Lewiston and Auburn may not have recognized that the steady improvement now being made is due in a large measure to the research and scientific attack on these different problems at Bates and other institutions.

REASSURE CITIZENS

The interpretation of river tests in the light of discoveries already made has permitted the pulp and paper mills on the river to control their production that odor nuisance in the Twin Cities is fast becoming only a memory.

The project being undertaken at the University of Maine will be essentially a chemical engineering study and evaluation of treatment methods and process modifications involved in the many processes which have been suggested for the utilization or disposal of sulphite waste liquor.

"The citizens of Maine and the Lewiston-Auburn area, should feel reassured that the pollution problem is not being ignored by the pulp and paper industry. In the laboratories of our colleges, universities and the industry, the scientific battle against pollution is being carried on without much publicity but with urgent intensity. The National Council for Stream Improvement, the scientists directing the work and the pulp and paper companies which provide financial support are aware of the magnitude of the problems which still must be solved and are justly proud of what has already been accomplished," said Dr. Lawrence.

The Lewiston Daily Sun

October 25, 1954

PAPER UNIONS URGE POLLUTION PROGRAM

Wants All Industries and Municipalities to Participate

Augusta, Oct. 24 - The Maine District Council of Pulp and Paper Unions AFL today urged a long range program to eliminate pollution. But it warned all industries and municipalities should participate.

To place the burden of a short-term program on the pulp and paper industries for the streams would work "serious hardship on the employees of these companies, as well as on the companies themselves," a resolution declared.

The council called for legislation to be presented at the next winter's session of the Legislature, but did not specify its exact nature.
A council statement declared that pulp and paper companies should not stand the expense of installing waste and sewage disposal facilities as "has been more than suggested by certain political groups in the state."

The Lewiston Daily Sun October 29, 1954

CLIMATIC YEAR
WAS 'WET ONE'

Records Were Smashed
At Five of UWP Co.
Valley Stations

Rumford Turned In Largest
Water Year Mark: Lakes
Are Full, Says Bean

What the meteorologists call the climatic year ended last Sept. 30 and records compiled by the Union Water Power Co. show it was a "wet one" in these climes.

Records were smashed at five of the company's seven scattered Androscoggin River valley stations and precipitation marks were at near-record levels at the other two stations.

Blame for pushing "water year" precipitation figures to new highs was placed on the bumper crop of September hurricane rain which added into new monthly records at Errol, N. H., and Pontook Dam.

P. W. Bean, UWP Co. river engineer, reported the Rangeley Lakes are "full" and more water "has come down the river this summer and fall than at any time since records have been kept." He said Aziscohos Lake behind Aziscohos dam "remained full all summer" and that is unusual.

Rumford Wettest Place

Rumford led the valley with a climatic year water mark of 59.59 inches, nearly 20 inches above normal and 10 inches above the prior mark set in 1950-51.

Close behind was Lewiston with a 59.12 figure which still was about two inches short of the all-time record of 61.57 inches set in 1875-76. Lewiston had 8.55 inches of rain in hurricane-bound September but Rumford's 8.92 inches topped the field.

Third-ranking valley precipitation producer was Errol, N. H., with a climatic year mark of 55.91, about two inches short of a new record. But Errol's 7.35 inches of September rain established a new high for the month, beating the prior mark set in 1946.

The three Rangeley Lakes stations and Pontook Dam set new climatic year records. Pontook also added a new September high
of 7.89 inches, beating the old record of 7.47 inches set in 1925. The up-river precipitation figures, however, were lower than those at the down-river communities. Here is a three-station comparative table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>1955-56</th>
<th>Ave.</th>
<th>Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lewiston</td>
<td>59.12</td>
<td>43.75</td>
<td>61.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rumford</td>
<td>59.59</td>
<td>39.75</td>
<td><em>(49.88)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pontook</td>
<td>51.22</td>
<td>38.29</td>
<td><em>(49.53)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Errol, N. H.</td>
<td>55.71</td>
<td>38.37</td>
<td>57.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aroostook</td>
<td>48.93</td>
<td>36.94</td>
<td><em>(48.99)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>51.51</td>
<td>37.42</td>
<td><em>(50.88)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper</td>
<td>51.27</td>
<td>34.27</td>
<td><em>(43.81)</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* - Broken in 1955-4

No valley community saw in this climatic year such heavy precipitation as came in March 1943 and sparked the Androscoggin River to its second worst recorded flood. September’s hurricane-born rain, coming mostly in Hurricane Edna, topped most of the other monthly water year marks.

Here is a comparative table by months:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>1955-56</th>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>79 Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ave.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>4.04</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>3.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>3.97</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>3.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>4.45</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>3.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>3.43</td>
<td>2.46</td>
<td>3.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>4.55</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>4.93</td>
<td>11.13</td>
<td>4.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>4.04</td>
<td>5.33</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>6.42</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>3.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>5.83</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>3.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>3.94</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>4.96</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>6.98</td>
<td>2.27</td>
<td>3.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>59.12</td>
<td>50.25</td>
<td>43.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave.</td>
<td>4.92</td>
<td>4.09</td>
<td>3.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## PRECIPITATION
(In Inches of Water)
RUMFORD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>1953-54</th>
<th>60-Year Ave.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>4.38</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>3.94</td>
<td>4.38</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>3.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>3.90</td>
<td>3.52</td>
<td>2.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>2.93</td>
<td>4.57</td>
<td>2.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>10.28</td>
<td>5.87</td>
<td>5.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>4.68</td>
<td>7.09</td>
<td>5.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>8.27</td>
<td>5.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>4.32</td>
<td>5.53</td>
<td>5.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>8.92</td>
<td>5.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>2.34</td>
<td>5.59</td>
<td>3.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept.</td>
<td>8.30</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>3.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>46.75</td>
<td>59.59</td>
<td>39.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave.</td>
<td>3.90</td>
<td>4.97</td>
<td>3.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ERROL, N. H.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>1953-54</th>
<th>60-Year Ave.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct.</td>
<td>3.28</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>3.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>1.96</td>
<td>1.98</td>
<td>2.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>3.51</td>
<td>2.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>3.08</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>2.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>2.56</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>2.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>5.54</td>
<td>3.85</td>
<td>5.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>3.67</td>
<td>5.14</td>
<td>2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>2.48</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>3.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>2.36</td>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>3.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>4.49</td>
<td>3.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug.</td>
<td>2.05</td>
<td>7.95</td>
<td>3.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>35.28</td>
<td>55.71</td>
<td>38.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ave.</td>
<td>2.34</td>
<td>4.64</td>
<td>3.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And now that the first snow has fallen this season, this is what has happened before:

## SNOWFALL
(In Inches)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>1953-54</th>
<th>1954-55</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov.</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td>5.50</td>
<td>10.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec.</td>
<td>5.60</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>37.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan.</td>
<td>15.15</td>
<td>15.25</td>
<td>27.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb.</td>
<td>13.91</td>
<td>10.35</td>
<td>39.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar.</td>
<td>19.25</td>
<td>5.70</td>
<td>13.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr.</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>65.31</td>
<td>43.85</td>
<td>127.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pollution and Lobbies

To the Editor:

The speech made recently by Rep. Willis Trafton at Bates College provokes great interest. His vigorous defense of the big lobbies at Augusta demands that a fair picture be presented in behalf of your readers.

Last session of the Legislature saw a group of determined citizens attempt to introduce an adequate anti-pollution bill. For most of us, it was a public service gesture. We were not being paid, nor were political plums offered for our efforts. It was at this time that we met the gentlemen that constituted the so-called "Third House", or lobbyists.

Any hopeful thoughts we may have held about Maine government being run for, of, or by the people were rudely shattered that day. Paid representatives of pulp, paper, hydro-electric and potato starch barons paraded to the stand, many of whom were greeted by first name by the Senator in charge of the hearing. Ordinary citizens were treated as interlopers into the sacred halls heretofore the happy hunting grounds of the big industries.

Mr. Trafton states that the lobbies help bring the facts before the legislators and help to pass much beneficial legislation. These lobbyists did not present facts, nor were they always truthful, but they did help to pass beneficial legislation - legislation beneficial to the big industries and public utilities only. After all, they were being paid by these big interests. The people can not afford to pay lobbyists. In fact, it all too often happens that an ordinary citizen cannot match these professionals in speech-making ability, expense accounts or political pull. The conscientious citizens then are subject to ridicule and loaded committees, thanks to these lobbyists.

One more bone to pick, then I will yield the floor. Mr. Trafton is quoted as saying that the industries favor a reasonable long range program of pollution abatement, while another group wants an immediate job, or words to that effect. It is obvious by now that industry would not be hiring high-priced lobbyists to fight every attempt at clean-up if this group were sincere. To date, the sum total of all clean-up by industry is zero. Their public relations men have been busy with words, but there are no needs, nor will there be pollution control for the next hundred years if the problem is entrusted to these people without a real adequate pollution control law minus the lobby-inspired industrial loopholes. Engineers tell us that there are several ways
available and actually working that could clean up our poisoned waterways. Industry ignores these facts and instead sets up a pure propaganda program of study and stall. No, industry in Maine has no intentions of doing anything toward clean-up unless there is a law that makes them become good responsible members of our communities.

In view of the above, much of which was observed by Mr. Traftton at Augusta, we feel that he should amend his perhaps hasty appraisal of the program of pollution by industry as well as his whole-hearted endorsement of more lobbying in the legislature, at least when the best interests of the people are at stake. Mr. Traphon has impressed us as being a big enough man to do so.

Norman R. Tufts

Auburn, Me.,
Oct. 31, 1954

WHIT'S WHITTLIN'S
WILL WE BE SOLD DOWN RIVER?

By Ralph R. Whittum

Notice has been published of two public hearings, one in Berlin, New Hampshire, at the City Hall at 10 a.m., EST, Nov. 9, and the other in the Senate Chambers, Augusta, Nov. 10, at 10 a.m. EST, of the survey conducted of Maine river basins by the New England- New York Inter-Agency Committee.

River basins to be covered in these hearings include in Maine, the Androscoggin, Presumpscot, Saco, St. Croix, Saint John, Penobscot, and Kennebec and the Maine Coastal areas. It should be noted that these areas are listed as "river basins" which is a very broad term and may well include all the brooks and streams which run into all of these rivers, the "basin" includes the entire drainage area and as such will include all of the State of Maine, since all of the State drains into some river.

The purpose of the hearings are to consider and discuss the committee's reports on the natural resources of these basins, and copies of the report are to be available for examination at the Presque Isle Council Chambers, Oct. 26, Bangor City Manager's Office, Oct. 28, No. 3 Hearing Room, Augusta, Oct. 29, Berlin, N. H., City Hall, Nov. 3, and State House Annex, Concord, Nov. 4.

Those who wish to be heard at the hearing must notify the Executive Secretary of the Committee at Room 1107, 150 Causeway St., Boston 14, in advance, and only one speaker is to be permitted
to represent any group.

Sounds like a lot of red tape and as though some one was making it as difficult as possible for anyone to appear and speak intelligently on the subject, doesn't it?

The first thing that we, in Maine, particularly those of us who are interested in fish and wildlife, should make sure of, is that the information contained in these reports is full, complete and factual. This will necessitate some careful examination and definite action by any and all groups interested, remembering that they must notify the secretary of their intent to speak and furnish proof of their right to speak for the group involved.

Having done this, we should then take a critical look at what is behind this whole program, and be prepared to take definite action through all groups and to the halls of Congress if we deem such action necessary.

This whole deal stems back from a perennial and ever recurring attempt by the Federal Government to gain control of all the natural resources of the country, particularly, to the rivers and streams so they can control all water power, flowage rights, and electric power in the country.

It harks back to the "valley Authority" bill which was introduced in Congress, which would divide the entire United States into about eight or nine river valleys, each one to be directed by an "authority" of three men to be appointed by the president and answerable only to him.

This deal as originally suggested gave those "Authorities" complete control of all water rights, flowage rights, and the right to generate all electricity on all streams in the country "from the largest river to the smallest stream." It also gave them management of flood control, soil conservation, fish and wildlife, and forest conservation on the banks of those streams.

The Valley Authority Bill was finally killed in Congress, and after it was finally dead, President Truman asked Congress for an appropriation to make a survey of the natural resources of New York and New England under the guise of "public safety". The authority not being granted by Congress the President then set up this committee himself with authority vested in him and had the survey made on a "public safety" basis.

Truman had authority to form such a committee, and the committee has held hundreds of meetings throughout the area in the last two years collecting information which is to be the basis of these reports on which the hearings are to be held. This is an accomplished fact and the only thing that anyone can do about it now, is to be sure that the reports are accurate and complete.

But then, after that, it behooves any of us who want to see the State of Maine, or any of the other New England States and
New York, remain individual States, retain control of their fish and wildlife, their water power, their electricity power and flowage rights, the conservation of their lands and forests, to be eternally vigilant to see what it is proposed to do with these reports after they are turned over to Washington.

The Army Engineers would just love to come into this country and build a bunch of dams under the guise of "flood control" or "public safety." They would probably enjoy setting up several power stations to generate electric energy "to use in time of emergency," and by the way sell their surplus to whom they desire at such rates as they deem advisable, charging back any loss to the people in hidden Federal taxes.

Maybe we are unduly concerned on this matter. Maybe the plans are the best that can be devised for the country. If so fine, if not it certainly won't do anyone any harm to be forewarned, to investigate, and to know just what is going on.

In short, if we are being "sold down the river," let's find out about it before it happens.
TALK CONTROL
OF POLLUTION

Dr. Fisher Predicts New
and More Realistic
State Program

By Edward C. Schlick

HALLOWELL - After the 1955 Maine Legislature goes home, the State will probably have an entirely different pollution program and one which is much more realistic, Dr. Dean Fisher, executive secretary of the State Water Commission and head of the State Department of Health and Welfare, told a meeting of the Maine Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers here yesterday.

Speakers representing industry and various State agencies addressed the all-day meeting on water pollution in Maine and discussed different aspects of the problem.

The State has a long way to go to solve water pollution and perhaps it should have started sooner, said Dr. Fisher, but a person's evaluation of the worth of the present program of stream classification probably depends on how urgent he considers the problem.

"SUGAR COATED"

"The present system has had only one year's trial and there has not been much to go on in that year," he said.

The move to get the Legislature to classify relatively unpolluted streams and avoid the more heavily polluted "controversial rivers" was "sugar coated" so that the legislators would give some recognition to pollution control, he said.

"The laws are still pretty much patchwork and some people feel the teeth have been compromised out of them," said Dr. Fisher, who pointed out the pollution laws have been the result of much heated discussion and have started persons thinking about what can be done about pollution.

"It may appear that little or nothing has been accomplished," he said, "but I think a great deal has been accomplished. It's like an investment that doesn't pay immediate returns."
Some preliminary work on pollution abatement has been done and more preliminary work will have to be done in the next few years before outstanding results are shown, said Dr. Fisher.

"We could arbitrarily and radically classify watersheds without considering the present condition of the water and could accomplish much in a short period of time but we could also create so many difficulties that the solution of the whole water problem would be set back years," stated Dr. Fisher.

Differing somewhat from the viewpoint of Dr. Fisher was a talk by W. Harry Eberhart, research biologist for the Inland Fisheries and Game Department, who discussed the position of his department.

"I don't think there is any problem in Maine that needs more action and less discussion than pollution," said Eberhart.

FISHING WAS RUINED

"There are two questions," declared Eberhart, "How we are going to clean up? And when? Not probably, not possibly, but when?"

The Fish and Game Department has no desire to cause any industry to leave the State, he said, but Maine's important recreation business will be badly hit if pollution continues to spoil fishing in the State.

"There's no question that Pennsylvania is ahead of Maine in pollution control but they waited until the fishing was ruined to enact a good program. Let's hope Maine doesn't wait that long to wake up."

Pollution is killing fish directly and, by killing off the organisms fish live on, is starving the fish, but the Fish and Game Department has no powers to enforce a clean-up, he said.

"You don't need to be an expert to know the streams are polluted," said Eberhart. "It's a vulgar type of pollution you can see, smell and feel. The Fish and Game Department is in a position of reporting pollution but has no power to correct it."

He showed slides of polluted rivers in Maine and told of an instance of walking into a mill to ask if he could work in the river near the building.

"Before I had a chance to say what I was there for the manager told me he wasn't going to do a damn thing about pollution. I don't think he'll be able to say that in 1952."
It is the duty of the Water Commission, said Dr. Fisher, to consider the condition of each stream, the installations contributing waste and the problem cost of cleaning it up. The needs of industry must be kept in mind too, he said. After field work and public hearings the commission must "strike a balance" between what might be ideal and the minimum clean-up needs.

UPGRADING POSSIBLE

"Classification is not permanent, said Dr. Fisher. "A river can be gradually upgraded and the commission offers some assurance as times go on that a reasonable degree of improvement will be secured."

The commission policy of classifying the upper watersheds first has been criticized, he said, but it is a reasonable policy which will keep the upper reaches of rivers from being polluted while the commission might be struggling with the worst problems at the lower reaches which may "take many years to solve."

While the licensing of sources of pollution by the commission has been attacked it provided the commission with statistical information and also gives a certain amount of control, stated Dr. Fisher. He also pointed out that some sources of pollution are automatically licensed under previous laws and are beyond the power of the commission.

A "REASONABLE TOOL"

One law licenses certain places to dump sawdust in the water and another forbids it so that the commission "doesn't know which law to believe," he said.

If classification is continued as a tool, and it is a "reasonable tool", representatives of the Water Commission will undoubtedly be patrolling streams and will become embroiled in legal action while enforcing standards of sanitation, he said.

"Financing will be one of the important clean-up problems," said Fisher. "You certainly can't remove much pollution without it costing some money. This problem will come into the open when the commission orders some municipality to undertake a clean-up which it feels is beyond its powers."

HITS TURNED SITUATION

"Too many people are talking about pollution out of one side of their mouths," stated Dr. Fisher. "You saw slides on pollution by town dumps and individuals. There's a big contribution that can be made now without major changes in the law."
Some extremely offensive situations can be handled under the nuisance law."

Dr. Fisher referred to a slide showing a sawmill waste polluting a stream in Turner and said a few persons could get an injunction to stop this situation if they wanted to but they won't because they are neighbors of the sawmill owner.

Some of the same individuals who are throwing trash off the bridge at Dixfield are probably squawking about pollution, he said.

"In a great many instances the people are not pulling their share of the load," declared Dr. Fisher.

SAYS COSTS UNKNOWN

Harold F. Schurle, chairman of the Maine Development Commission, spoke on "The Businessman Looks at Pollution" and said if the State loses a single major industry because of drastic pollution legislation putting the industry in a position where it can't compete with other industries it "would be tragic."

Even experts who have studied the Androscoggin and other rivers for three years can't produce accurate figures on the cost of clean-up to industry and to municipalities, he said.

"These men are honest enough to say they don't know the answers and it's ridiculous to say an accurate benefit-cost ratio can be produced when even they are not sure of their figures," said Schurle.

"Changes dealing with a large segment of the economy are not to be treated lightly," he said. "It seems to me we had better find out what we are talking about before we spend money."

BUDGET $17,000

Raymond MacDonald, civil engineer from the sanitary engineering division of the State Department of Health and Welfare, explained the present A, B, C and D classifications of streams and said that natural pollution from bugs and animals keeps many streams in flat areas from falling into the A class to be acceptable as drinking water after disinfection.

The commission is trying to get field work and hearings completed on as many streams as possible so that they can be classified by the 1986 session of the Legislature, he said. But the commission is handicapped by a yearly budget of only $17,000.

Of the approximately 7,000 miles of streams to be considered for classification the commission will recommend that the bulk of them be put in class B, some in class C, and a little in class A, said MacDonald.
"You really can't ask for much more than that," he said, "because many streams are kept out of the A class by natural conditions."

BANGOR WATER SUPPLY
"FROM POLLUTED SOURCE"

AUGUSTA, Nov. 5 (AP) - The Public Utilities Commission remarked today that Bangor, which takes its drinking water from the Penobscot River, now is the only Maine community getting its supply "from a grossly polluted source."

The commission made the observation in a decree granting an average 93 per cent increase to the Richmond Water Works which recently put new wells in Dresden into use and has abandoned the Kennebec River as a water source.
TWO GIANT DAM
PLANS OUTLINED
AT BERLIN, N.H.

ONE SUGGESTION by ARMY ENGINEERS CALLS for
THREE-DAM NETWORK at ERROL IS OPPOSED by
SPORTSMEN OTHER PROPOSALS SINGLE DAM WITH
130 FOOT WATER LEVEL AUGUSTA SESSION TODAY

BERLIN, N.H., Nov. 9 (AP)-Two giant dam construction proposals, designed to increase electric power supplies in northernmost New England were discussed today at a public hearing here.

With Col. Benjamin B. Talley, Corps of Engineers, New York City, serving as chairman, the New England-New York Inter-Agency Committee (NENYIAC) heard arguments for and against the projects.

As outlined by the Army engineers, plan number 1, so-called, would provide for a three-dam network in the Errol area of New Hampshire. One dam would be located at the site of the present Errol dam and would have a water elevation of 55 feet.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game Commission objects to this plan, claiming 14.3 square miles of hunting area, several homes in the Wentworth Location area and nearly six miles of Route 16 would be flooded. Salmon and trout fishing would also suffer, the agency says.

The second plan calls for construction of a lone dam with a water level of 130 feet at Errol. A Fish and Game Commission spokesman said the agency favors the second plan because it would cause less inundation of hunting and fishing areas.

The U.S. Wildlife Service has rejected claims that it be reimbursed for damages.

The NENYIAC was set up by directive of President Truman at the same time state fish and game agencies were directed to make economic surveys of natural resources. The New Hampshire agency is currently conducting such a study in the Androscoggin River Valley, the area affected by the proposed dams.

About 200 attended the first of 11 public hearings on land and water resources, including representatives of industry, city and town governments, state officials and fish and game organizations.

Tomorrow's public hearing will be at Augusta, Maine.
The hearings are concerned with reports covering seven river basins, the Androscoggin, Presumpscot, Saco, St. Croix, St. John, Penobscot and Kennebec, and the Maine coastal area.

These river basins are in subregion A, an area of 34,000 square miles, which embraces about one-half of the New England land mass.

It has been estimated that it would cost some $40,000,000 to install facilities for pollution control in the region. Another $35,000,000 would be needed to develop the recreational potentialities. At least $564,000,000 was estimated as the figure for developing hydroelectric power potentials. It has been noted that it would be necessary to develop industry to require all of the potential power of Maine.

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NEED TIME TO STUDY POLLUTION PROBLEMS

Maine Industries Head Warns of Crippling Program

PORTLAND, Nov. 9 (AP) - The president of the Associated Industries of Maine said tonight that manufacturing companies are "eager" to clean up stream pollution but they need time to "find X X X economically sound and technically satisfactory" methods.

J. William Schulze said many firms find drastic legislation now would add too much to industry's operating costs in Maine and some would not be able to afford it.

Schulze, vice president of the Bath Iron Works, Inc. appeared on Television Station WGSH. He said he knew of one company holding up a million dollar expansion program until it determined what Maine was going to do regarding requirements.

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The Lewiston Daily Sun November 11, 1954

STUDY OF ME. RESOURCES IS COMENDED

Conservationists, Some Sportsmen Urge Caution in Development Plans

DIXFIELD PLAN HIT

Augusta, Nov. 10 (AP) - Republicans, Democrats and industry officials joined today in praise of a detailed report on Maine's land and water resource, and tentative plans for their development. But wildlife conservationists and some industry spokesmen issued a "go slow" warning.
The occasion was a public hearing on a proposed preliminary report of the New England-New York Inter-Agency Committee.

Republican Gov. Burton M. Cross, who leaves office in January, commended the committee and said the report will be "literally worth millions of dollars to the state of Maine."

James G. Oliver of South Portland, speaking for the Maine Democratic Party, said the report "could be and should be the textbook and blueprint for the study, planning and the action of Maine citizens, whose future is so utterly dependent upon the progressive expansion of the economy of this state."

Covered Resources

The report covers 11 major resources including hydroelectric potential and flood control possibilities in seven major river basins. The committee held a hearing in New Hampshire yesterday and has scheduled additional hearings next month in Springfield, Mass., New Haven, Conn., and Providence, R. I.

Harold E. Schnurle, chairman of the Maine Development Commission and vice president of the Central Maine Power Co., said the report is a real guide to future development" and an outstanding job of resource planning."

Conservationists Concerned

Some conservationists expressed concern about the effect of hydro-electric developments on fish and wildlife.

Wildlife considerations are missing from many hydro-electric developments," said Philip Barska of Stratford, Conn., speaking for the Wildlife Management Institute.

Charles H. Gallison of Washington, D. C., conservation director of National Wildlife Federation, said one-fourth of New England's citizens hunt or fish, and millions more enjoy wildlife through photography or just hiking.

"This should be balanced against possible gain from developments which would detract from wildlife in those areas," said Gallison.

Dixfield Project Opposed

Philip W. Thomas, chief engineer of the Oxford Paper Co. and its subsidiary, the Rumford Falls Power Co., entered specific opposition to the so-called Dixfield Project which had been advanced as a possibility for Androscoggin River development.

Thomas said this would be four miles downriver from the Oxford paper mill in Rumford and, in his and company engineer's opinion, the site is neither economical nor feasible.

A dam in that area would present a critical danger to property
above it, Thomas added. He said construction of a dam might cause serious water damage and loss of employment.

**Opposes Power "Socialization"**

Thomas also entered for the record his opposition to what he termed "socialization of the power industry in the state of Maine," and said any necessary power "should be and will be developed by private industries if and when the economic development of Maine makes it necessary."

Elliott Hale of Waterville, a former member of the Maine Water Improvement Commission, said the whole report is a marked change of policy in regard to pollution problems." Hale said he expects good will to result.

**Three Alternative Plans**

The report included three alternative plans for reducing stream pollution.

Hale said the report contains "too many qualifying statements" in regard to pollution and cannot be comprehensive because "more deep and careful study of the water pollution problem must be made."
AUGUSTA-A reorganization of the Maine Water Improvement Commission to include three "public" members who would have no direct connection with industry was recommended by the Legislative Research Committee today, after a study of river and stream pollution problems in the State.

The seven-man commission, headed by Chairman Clifford G. Chase of Barin, is the successor to the old Sanitary Water Board and has the responsibility of making recommendations to every legislature concerning classification of rivers, waters, and coastal flats within the State. The original sponsor of the bill setting up the Sanitary Water Board was the late Rep. Edmond J. Lambert of Lewiston.

"Emotional Issue"

The Research Committee, headed by Chairman Samuel W. Collins of Caribou, in its first report to the incoming 97th Legislature, termed the river and stream pollution problem in Maine an increasingly "emotional issue" and declared there would be no easy solution.

The committee expressed the opinion that "existing laws and the administrative agencies charged with the operation of these laws are not sufficient to control or correct the pollution problem.

Also inadequate, the Committee declared, was the present system of classification of rivers and streams.

The Research Committee also recommended:
1- "An exhaustive study of anti-pollution laws in use in other states should be made (and)...recommendations based on the experience of other States should then be embodied in a legislative program designed to combat pollution in Maine."

2- "Ways and means should be sought to combat pollution from sources outside the State."

"Go Slow"

The committee urged that the long-range study be undertaken carefully "so as to avoid placing any undue burdens on particular industries or municipalities."

Before the passage of legislation, the committee recommended removal of a "loophole" in the present laws which "allow an existing industry to increase its pollution loads through the addition of more production facilities."
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REORGANIZE WATER
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Funds for Work

Also, if the 97th Legislature decides that the work of classification should be speeded up, adequate funds for the purpose should be made available to the Water Improvement Commission.

The Research Committee voted to study pollution problems in October of 1955, and a preliminary hearing was held Nov. 17 of that year.

On hand were representatives of the Water Improvement Commission, the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Game Roland H. Cobb, representatives of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control, and members of industry.

A second full-scale hearing was held in the House of Representatives May 25 of this year, with about 100 persons present.

POLLUTION CURBS
STILL DIFFICULT, LEGISLATORS FIND

Research Committee Reports
Many Obstacles: Has No Definite Solution

SUGGESTS CHANGES

AUGUSTA—November 11 (AP)—The legislative Research Committee proposed today that Maine's present stream classification system be tightened for better control of pollution.

But the committee also said any major improvement will have to be made some other way and that effective control is impossible under present law. It suggested study but no definite solution, and said:

The committee is x x x of the opinion that the pollution problem must be solved within the framework of the larger problem of conservation of all the resources of the state. Practically every phase of the state's economic life is affected in one way or another by the pollution problem."

The committee's report on pollution to the 1955 Legislature, the first of several reports on a variety of subjects, outlined the stand on pollution of many groups.
These ranged from the "Do it now" approach of the Citizens for Conservation and Pollution Control to the proposal of industries for classification of waters first and gradual improvement later subject to economic convenience.

Report

Said the committee:

The pollution problem has become an emotional issue which defies an easy solution. During the hearings, the Research Committee listened to all shades of opinion. It is obvious that no proposal by this committee will please all groups concerned.

It is the considered opinion of the committee, however, that existing laws and the administrative agencies charged with the operation of these laws are not sufficient to control or correct the pollution problem. The present system of classification, by itself, is inadequate to meet the situation.

Under a 1953 law the Maine Water Improvement Commission is holding hearings on various rivers, streams and other waters to determine the present degree of pollution. It must recommend ways to reduce pollution.

Classifications, some already set by the Legislature and others recommended by the commission, range from Class A, free of pollution, to Class D, primarily for sewage and industrial waste.

Class B waters may have some pollution but are suitable for bathing, will support aquatic life and are suitable for drinking with chlorine treatment.

Class C Too Broad

The committee found Class C too broad, ranging from almost as good as Class B to almost as bad as Class D, and recommended redefining its limits.

It also recommended removing the loophole which allows an existing industry to increase its pollution loads through the addition of more production facilities. No lowering of classification grades should be allowed.

The committee recommended that the licensing authority of the Water Improvement Commission be broadened to cover more industries—most now are beyond the commission's authority because they were in operation prior to Aug. 8, 1953, the effective date of the present law.

The report also suggested that the commission be reorganized, to include three public members not directly connected with any industry.

Need More Money

More money should be appropriated, the committee said, if the Legislature wants to speed up the classification system.
As long range recommendations, the committee proposed a searching study of anti-pollution laws of other states and embodying their best features in a legislative program for Maine.

"Ways and means should be sought," the report said, "to combat pollution from sources outside the state."

These steps, the committee said, "should be undertaken carefully so as to avoid placing any undue burdens on particular industries or municipalities.

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The Lewiston Daily Sun

November 12, 1954

EDITORIAL

THE MARYLAND HEARINGS

The hearings held at Berlin, N.H., and Augusta earlier this week by so-called "MARYLAND", or the New England-New York Inter-Agency committee, are the culmination of four years work on the region's land and water resources.

The history of the group is interesting because a change of Administrations has brought a change in the emphasis of this study. President Truman originally sought congressional sanction for the group and its program, but was refused. But a short time later, under authority of the Flood Control Act of 1950, he set up the study committee, placing on it representatives of the Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Power Commission, at that time the key agency—and the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, Labor and Health, Education and Welfare. The region marked out for study included New York and the six New England States. And the original primary purpose was to probe the feasibility of a water resources authority for the region, patterned on the TVA and Columbia River authority.

It was largely for this reason that the preliminary hearings held in 1951 and 1952—one took place in the House chamber at the State Capitol at Augusta—were somewhat controversial ones, with utility spokesmen strongly opposing a projected blueprint by the Federal Power Commission for New England's river valleys.

During the four years of work, the committee has gathered an immense amount of testimony and information contained in 41 volumes of so-called "gold books", from the color of their covers. These volumes have been made accessible to interested groups and individuals and, when the testimony given at the Berlin and Augusta hearings, plus many more to be held later in other parts of the region, will form the basis of the final report. This will take the best part of another year, and it may be next fall before the Government Printing Office will put them on sale.

It would be impossible to condense, in an editorial, the facts and figures relating only to the Androscoggin river valley.
The committee has discovered many potential hydro-electric power sites up and down the valley, only one of which is likely to be exploited in the near future. The chief value in the coming report lies in the vast volume of information it contains on our land and water resources. If it serves as a guidepost to their intelligent development, then this bulky report will have served a useful purpose.
ACTION on POLLUTION

Pollution of Maine inland waters is a real issue. The Legislative Research Committee says it "has become an emotional issue."

The committee advises the 97th Legislature to do something about correcting conditions and appropriate funds for a long-range study of anti-pollution laws in other states.

No quick remedy is available. There should and must be—step by step and by the next Legislature—a plan devised to stop ruining waters.

Industry, cities and towns have a joint responsibility.

Such a project must also consider capacity of industries and municipalities to meet the problem financially.

The Lewiston Daily Sun

EDlTORIAL

THE POLLUTION REPORT

We welcome the report of the Legislative Research committee on river and stream pollution in Maine, just as we welcome any new development that promises progress in cleaning up the State's dirty rivers.

There is merit in the proposal to reorganize the Water Improvement Commission and add to it three non-industry public members.

It may be true that existing laws, and administrative agencies charged with enforcing them, are inadequate to correct the pollution menace. If so, that is surely no credit to the Legislatures that enacted them. There is value, too, in study of anti-pollution laws of other states—why wasn’t it made long ago—together with the proposal that if it is legislative intent to "classify" the State’s waters, then the commission should have money enough to do it quickly and accurately.

Most difficult to understand is the finding, in the report, that pollution of Maine waters has become an "increasingly emotional issue." What is there emotional about wanting clean rivers in Maine? We presume the Research committee was referring to the strong statements occasionally made, at times, by foes of pollution. But that is not emotion, it is exasperation that so little progress has been made.

With this report, and other developments, in mind it may be that after years of frustration and obstruction, the anti-pollution battle is beginning to pay off. One thing is sure, the next Legislature will find arrayed against pollution a far more powerful coalition than was ever gathered before. And when the people speak, as they are beginning to speak in Maine, they are likely to be heard, and their demands granted.