

and game commission. We have a very good, we believe, fish and game program out there, and much of it is inherited directly from his effort. Chairman Miller has been a student of our water problems and a supporter of our water projects. Governor Brown and I have many times called on his willing and effective interest. We are made repeatedly grateful to him.

Chairman MILLER. You are very generous.

Mr. DADDARIO. Have you heard from the Department of the Interior during these last few weeks of a new process that they have developed for altering the operation of ordinary treatment plants to improve the removal of phosphates?

Mr. WARNE. I have heard of it, but not in detail. I hope to perhaps get over there and talk to some of them today or tomorrow.

Mr. DADDARIO. So, even though it has been announced, you have not been given sufficient information enabling you to tell us how it might apply to any of the work with which you are concerned such as the algal growth in lakes such as Tahoe?

Mr. WARNE. Not as yet, but we are much interested in it, and we hope to be able to cooperate with them in any demonstration of its effectiveness.

Much has been written and said about the hazards of the so-called persistent pesticides. Actually, many aspects of the pesticide picture are at best only partly known and even less understood.

In the first place, there does not seem to be a common understanding as to the meaning of the term "pesticides." In California, we use the definition of our State department of agriculture which defines pesticides as—

"Substances or mixtures of substances intended to be used for controlling, preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. The term is not limited to materials highly toxic to human beings or livestock which are thought of as poisons, but includes insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, herbicides, vermicides, defoliants, wood preservatives, preharvest dessicants, repellents, antifouling paints, and mildew-controlling paints, as well as substances for control of snails, predatory animals, injurious birds, bacteria, algae, soil infecting nematodes, and other undesirable forms of plant and animal life."

Under such a broad definition, substances such as salt, tetraborates, hypochlorites, and sulfur are placed in the same category as the highly toxic arsenicals, strychnines, and synthetic organic insecticides.

California is a major user of pesticides—

Mr. DADDARIO. Do you mean that the definition is too broad?

Mr. WARNE. I mean that at least people sometimes confuse the terms. I am not in any way underrating the problem of pesticides, but I am saying the consideration of sulfur in the same category as strychnine under a banner of pesticides may cause more alarm than is warranted. We are a major user of pesticides in California, and it has been estimated that we use about one-fifth of the total amount of pesticides used in the United States.

And, I would say that the use of these materials, these agricultural chemicals, is a major contributing factor to the high productivity on a per acre basis of our agriculture out there.

Rather than being apprehensive about pesticides, at least as they are defined in California, I believe that our major concern is really about the poisons and insecticides such as DDT, DDE, endrin, dieldrin, malathion, and so forth.