

petitive aspect forward and I think that the private sector of the economy will do its job once it sees a potential market.

Mr. CONABLE. Mr. Chairman, if we have time, I wonder if Mr. Bueche could say a bit more about item 8 on page 9 of his statement which concerns the prospects for radically improved conversion of domestic sewage to useful products through research in microbiology.

Dr. BUECHE. In this area, I am slightly out of my field, but let me say that we do have a number of biologists and chemists working in the General Electric Co. on this, and they have surveyed for me the various possibilities of treating sewage and have actually started experiments on this.

Mr. CONABLE. Do you have some pilot plants?

Dr. BUECHE. I wouldn't dignify them by the description "pilot plants," but they have done small-scale experiments. Of course, General Electric is not unique in this. I am aware of a number of others who are also pursuing these lines.

Mr. CONABLE. Do you feel there is a possibility of a breakthrough which would be economically feasible?

Dr. BUECHE. I believe it is possible, yes.

Chairman MILLER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. CONABLE. Yes.

Chairman MILLER. Isn't much of this being done indirectly in parts of the United States today where reconditioned water is being used?

Dr. BUECHE. I believe it is, sir.

Chairman MILLER. When I told a very distinguished scientist about the plans of the Army for pumping polluted water out to sea in California, he commented that this seemed to be a backward approach. He said that it is time to teach the American people that they have got to use and reuse water. I think this is true even though it may seem distasteful to think about. But it is being done in one of your own plants and I have sampled some of this reconstituted water.

Dr. BUECHE. So have I.

Mr. DADDARIO. Dr. Bueche, you obviously feel that we do have available to us means to solve many of these problems. You have touched on a point which many other witnesses have also mentioned concerning the availability of computers which can be used in these systems and models which you have talked about and which will give us a great impetus. We ought to take advantage of it.

We must begin to combine the efforts of our society. Is there any question in your mind that a great deal needs to be done, even though there is available to us much to do the job with?

Dr. BUECHE. Yes; I think that is correct.

Mr. DADDARIO. From the standpoint of the research that does need to be done, do you believe that our present level of effort is inadequate?

Dr. BUECHE. Yes, sir. That is correct.

Mr. DADDARIO. Dr. Bueche, we recognize how busy you are but we would like to be able to send you some questions for later reply. (Additional questions and answers for the record may be found in vol. II.)

(The biographical statement of Dr. Arthur M. Bueche follows:)

BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT OF DR. ARTHUR M. BUECHE

Dr. Arthur M. Bueche is vice president in charge of the General Electric Research and Development Center. He directs the research and development activities of a total staff of more than 1800 men and women, including some 700