

Dr. BISHOP. Companies are familiar with what other people are doing in the field and the different results come about because of different circumstances.

The plant was built in Fontana during the war by the Federal Government. This is an area where there is very little water so they went to extreme measures to conserve water. Most steel plants previously to that had been built in areas that had lots of water. This is normally one of the criteria laid down for building a big steel mill, so the Fontana plant led to a different philosophy.

Senator Muskie one time asked, for example, why Fontana were using a dry precipitator for their basic steelmaking plant while we in the Chicago area were going to use wet cleaners. The answer of course again was that we have lots of water in Gary and Chicago, and can use wet cleaners. In California, with limited water they favor a dry unit. Both will perform with equal effectiveness and I think that is the important point.

When we clean an open hearth for example, the steel industry uses precipitators, wet scrubbers, and one has a bag house. What we try to do is qualify different pieces of control equipment and they compete for service in a particular instance.

Mr. DADDARIO. Aren't these production techniques rather than means to lessen pollution?

Dr. BISHOP. The three I mentioned are cleaning devices that could be used on a given open hearth.

Mr. DADDARIO. Do you believe they are equally effective in the climate under which they are used?

Dr. BISHOP. In one instance you may have a land problem and so this excludes a particular type of unit, or you may have high power costs or some other major factor. The task is choosing the one that is economically superior to do a given job.

Mr. DADDARIO. I am interested in your remark that because we have had a previous suggestion that one possibility would be to establish an industrywide standard. You now point out that this would be a very difficult thing to do because you are operating under conditions that are so different that you must have flexibility as well as objectivity in the standards which are applied.

Dr. BISHOP. That is right, and I feel we have actually made faster progress. As the previous speaker said competition is the spice of life. If you have two or three different methods being developed as possible solutions to a problem you undoubtedly have a much better chance of coming up with an optimum solution.

Mr. VIVIAN. Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the statement made by the previous speaker, which I concur with, is that if there are no industrywide standards, each industry will determine its own. Industry standards might keep steel mills on the Great Lakes in my own area from paying no attention to the creation of pollution, whereas they may be forced to pay attention to pollution in some other areas.

Dr. BISHOP. You are talking about national standards?

Mr. VIVIAN. National standards for each industry or subdivision.

Dr. BISHOP. Well, it is very difficult, as I say, with the various equipment that has been put in over a period of many years to really come up—