

on a basinwide scale on the Potomac River. Here development has been slow and control has been elementary via the Potomac River Interstate Commission, with its severely limited powers. Contrary to much hostile publicity, however, the river in much of its total length is of good quality. Basin development is at its beginning and machinery for its growth and its functions will undoubtedly evolve.

The Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission

This is an interstate compact agency created jointly in 1948 by the States of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Ohio, with approval of the Congress of the United States. The purpose of the agency was to abate existing pollution and prevent new pollution by motivating communities and industries to finance and build sewage and waste control facilities. For the most part, the accomplishments herein noted were the result largely of persuasion and rarely of compulsion.

The coordination of these activities took place via the agency known as Orsanco. The district for which it assumed responsibility embraces portions of the 8 States, within the Ohio River Basin, covering an area of 154,000 square miles and a sewered population of 11,400,000. It is drained by the 981-mile Ohio River and 19 major tributaries.

In the 17 years since the creation of Orsanco, \$370 million has been spent for treatment on the main river and another \$748 million by the communities on the tributaries. Local funds have financed nine-tenths of this capital outlay. Federal grants-in-aid, not available until 1956, account for the remaining one-tenth.

Expenditures by industries for pollution abatement are not a matter of public record. The States report, however, that 1,560 of the 1,723 establishments discharging effluents to streams have installed control facilities.

The local expenditures of more than a billion dollars have resulted in providing sewage treatment for 93 percent of the sewered population in the valley, half with secondary treatment and another quarter with intermediate processing.

In the commission's current program two deficiencies appear. Some 10 percent of the industries still are delinquent in compliance. The second deficiency, in spite of accomplishments, is the limited capability of the State regulatory agencies to keep up with their increasing responsibilities. The agencies require more staff and greater operating budgets.

A considerable part of the activity of Orsanco is pursued through a series of industry and advisory committees. These meet frequently with the commission members and the staff and are often responsible for assistance in developing criteria for stream quality and for providing public education and corporate understanding. Such committees have covered problems of aquatic life, the chemical, coal, metal furnishing, petroleum, pulp and paper, and steel industries, and of water users in general.

The Delaware River Basin

The Delaware River has been the subject of control and development management for over three decades. For most of this period, an institution known as Incodel—the Interstate Commission on the