

The reservoir would impound runoff waters from a catchment area which is totally agricultural. Small ponds in the area are weed choked and produce quantities of algal growth. The water quality in this reservoir would certainly be affected by herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, and fertilizers, as well as animal wastes. Can these substances be defined as pollutants or is this term reserved for municipal and industrial wastes?

Will your committee attempt to establish such definitions and will it be concerned with the means of evaluating the effects of such materials in reservoirs prior to the construction of this type of impoundment?

What are the taste and odor problems that might be expected in water drawn from such an impoundment?

Do today's water treatment facilities have the means for coping with the chemicals used in modern agriculture?

What effect will agricultural nutrients have on the water quality in the Huron River itself as the waters are drawn from the reservoir?

And why does the Corps of Engineers gloss over this potential threat to water quality?

Will your studies also attempt to establish criteria for total land use? Or will water resources take precedence over all the others such as future food needs, green and open space requirements and ultimately even the space needs of the predicted megalopolis?

When the latter becomes reality the water resources of the Huron River Basin will be inadequate to serve the population regardless of a Mill Creek impoundment. In the future this area will participate in a metropolitan system of water supply and sewage interceptors because it is becoming impossible to confine utilities and services within political boundaries. What assistance and guidelines can be drawn up to assist communities over the political hurdles when local sovereignty must be sacrificed for the well-being of residents of many communities?

The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation has been asked to add its plans for the reservoir to those of the Corps of Engineers. The cost-benefit figures are based on absolute maximum potential use of the recreational facilities which would be built into the area. Anyone who has ever lived in this portion of lower Michigan knows that there are numerous snowless days in winter and equally numerous cold and gloomy days in summer when recreational activities are nearly nonexistent; therefore, the use of the maximum is inaccurate and unrealistic.

For example, this is a low-snow-fall belt but Jerusalem Hill in the reservoir area, section 33, Lima Township, is predicted to draw 20,000 users per season for sledding, and tobogganing. Oldtime residents of the area can count on their fingers the number of times when this windswept hill has had snow on it and no snowmaking equipment is planned.

Bureau of Outdoor Recreation's drawdown plan calls for major drawdowns after Labor Day and into October. But are not the low flows most troublesome in the summer months when combined with hot weather? The Huron Clinton Metropolitan Park Authority states that drawdown at Kent Lake "is incompatible with park usage."