

The problems of today's society, of course, cannot be viewed as isolated matters of science or technology. There are important and inextricable social, economic, and political factors to be weighed in the decision-making process.

In a sense, however, we are only at the threshold of our appreciation of the important and critical role of living resources in relation to man's perception of his needs and desires. It is ironical that only when we have come to realize that the biological world—the biosphere—which sustains our lives and gives them quality by bringing pleasure to our minds and delight to our senses—is threatened, have we come also to realize how primitive and rudimentary is our knowledge of the biosphere.

We have learned a great deal about isolated biological systems, but we know next to nothing about the macro-systems of the real world.

In knowledge, we are very much space-age men in the physical world and stone-age men in the biological world.

To survive and to flourish—in comfort and in dignity and in peace—it is imperative that we increase our understanding and come up into the very real world of today—and of tomorrow.

The International Biological Program offers an opportunity to take a giant step forward and upward.

For these reasons, the Office of Science and Technology supports strongly House Concurrent Resolution 273.

Thank you.

Dr. BENNETT. The purpose of this statement is really to dwell on the two reasons that the Office of Science and Technology supports this program and this resolution.

To cite these reasons before the subcommittee is like bringing coals to Newcastle, because the statement is well larded with quotations from publications of this committee.

The two reasons are these: That first, we feel very strongly that quite apart from its specific content and discipline that science is a neutral portal to international understanding, and I can quote what Mr. Fulton said at the eighth meeting of the Panel on Science and Technology in January of this year where he stated, and I quote:

Joint constructive international programs of science, research and development will cause progress that will construct bonds of well-being and independence among peoples far outweighing the dangers, alarms, and destruction of combat and war.

Our second main reason for being so strongly in support of this program is the fact that it does emphasize ecological sciences, and as this subcommittee has portrayed so well in its publication last year, from which you, Mr. Chairman, quoted, there is a real need for an emphasis on field studies of the type that this particular program will arouse an interest in and will begin to execute during the next 5 years.

I would like to quote from that publication, if I might, the publication on pollution, as follows:

None of our natural resources is in so great a supply that it can any longer be considered inexhaustible or truly consumable * * *. Pollution abatement and resource conservation go hand in hand. The resource conservation problem is essentially worldwide and no one geographical or political area is independent of others.

So I think I can really summarize the feeling in the Office of Science and Technology by saying that we feel very strongly that at the present time we are very much space age men in a physical world and stone age men in the biological world, and that while we have learned something about a few ecological systems, that our depth of understanding