

all park and outdoor recreation projects, programs, and authorizations be financed from this source under a "full-funding" concept and, to date, there has been no challenge from the general public to this designation. The Chairman of one of the more important committees in Congress has stated openly that his committee is not in any hurry to consider many new conservation programs unless and until Congressional appropriation committees adequately finance those previously authorized through the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

A bill (S. 1401), which would provide additional funds to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, has been introduced in the Senate and similar bills have been introduced in the House of Representatives. This legislation has languished in committees, supposedly because no report from the administration as to its position has been received.

It is really tragic that conservationists stand idly by, allowing the forward impetus of conservation movements to be slowed to the speed of molasses flowing in January without a murmur or complaint. It seems that we can afford from \$1 to \$2 billion worth of water development projects almost every year, with only perfunctory public hearings and absolutely no prescribed limits as to financing, yet we must be bound by less than \$120,000,000 per year to finance the bulk of the park and recreation program of the United States. We can spend more than a half billion for navigation on the Arkansas River, but we can't afford one-fifth that amount for a Redwoods National Park. Then, must we sacrifice on the altar of political expediency the bartering away some of the most valuable multiple-use lands within our national forest system? We can literally spend hundreds of billions of dollars for improving the navigation in our public waters, in controlling floods and in bringing new lands into agricultural production through irrigation and drainage, but somehow we still cannot find sufficient funds even to attempt to meet the most modest demands of the public for outdoor recreation. Congress insists that the users of park and recreation areas pay a fee for the use of facilities developed at public expense and yet small businesses, farmers, water transportation users, in fact, almost every segment of American industry is subsidized in some way and to varying degrees by our Federal establishment.

Will Durant once said that progress in America was great, except that it went on too long. With all of our advanced technology, it is my firm opinion that Americans still have—and hope to preserve—the enjoyable life. What kind of America will we have left to enjoy and what kind of natural heritage will we leave to succeeding generations if our government refuses to set aside and preserve a representative segment of the natural environment in such amounts and in such condition that the average citizen can at some time in his life look towards participating in and enjoying a quality outdoor experience? We live in a great democracy and the government supposedly derives its power to govern from the consent of the governed. When the history of our great country and this generation is recorded for posterity, what will be our greatest contribution to humanity? Will it be our industry, agriculture, art, literature, music, or scientific technology? Will it be great social progress? Will we be that naked ape, the only animal with the power to reason who considered it reasonable to foul his own nest, to pollute air he breathed, water he drank, and land he tilled? Will our generation be known as the one who went bankrupt by spending billions for war, billions for the industrial revolution, and billions for scientific technology only to find that life had lost much of its savor without a chance to commune with nature, to wash one's soul in clean water and pure air, to know intimately the beauty of uncluttered green space and the exhilaration of a quality wilderness experience?

It is high time that conservation voices be heard above special interest caterwauling and political convenience and connivance. Our generation must be recognized as the one with the wisdom and foresight to so use and manage our environment that the ecological balance is maintained and the natural amenities of life preserved. We make the kind of life and habitat in which we live. The beautiful America we want requires active interest and participation by every citizen. Are you doing your part to influence, for the public good, those resource policies and programs that change the quantity and quality of our environment?

Senator BURDICK, Michael Nadel, assistant executive director, the Wilderness Society, is next.