

if filled, could lift up the whole level of this particular effort and immediately cause some improvement, in fact, considerable improvement.

Dr. WEINBERGER. Yes, sir; unquestionably.

Mr. DADDARIO. Your hope is that we will be developing an ability to make such an assessment so that each community can, in an expeditious way, come to a determination as to where it stands or what can be done, and what it will cost, and how much more improvement will come about as a result.

Dr. WEINBERGER. Yes, sir; this is certainly one of the administration's goals, to accomplish this.

Mr. DADDARIO. Fine, Doctor.

Mr. Fulton?

Mr. FULTON. The question to me is: Maybe we are starting at the wrong end. Instead of being under the apple tree trying to catch the apples with our apron, why don't we go in from the constructive side, that is, the best use of water and air supplies, both for current use and for longtime purposes? Why don't we start like that instead of talking pollution? It should take in the whole field.

Dr. WEINBERGER. I certainly do not have any comment to make other than to agree with Mr. Fulton, that in looking at water pollution, water pollution is obviously part of a much larger water resource problem. The whole matter of effective utilization of all of our waters and water resource planning is one of the activities that is being undertaken by the executive branch through Water Resources Council, among other agencies. So that the need for an overview of our total water program is certainly in order.

Mr. FULTON. Instead of just putting our programs for 17 States on reclamation, why don't we in Congress have the programs for all States with an overall purview of the best use of the U.S. resources? You see, we limit, in the Federal program, reclamation to only 17 States. That takes in half of Texas and then goes on west but it does not affect the need of any State east of the Mississippi River.

Dr. WEINBERGER. I could not comment on reclamation.

Mr. FULTON. This is a trap, I am from Pennsylvania.

Dr. WEINBERGER. I was going to comment—

Mr. DADDARIO. Did you have to be advised that that was a trap?

Dr. WEINBERGER. No.

Mr. FULTON. I could see his light touch, he was feathering it a little bit.

Dr. WEINBERGER. I hope not. I was going to comment by saying that insofar as the water quality control aspects, the responsibility given to us by the Congress touches all of the States of the United States.

Mr. FULTON. My point is maybe we should have an overall view which includes these problems wherever they are rather than putting them just geographically by States or taking the end result of the problem, such as pollution.

Dr. WEINBERGER. I would say personally, I think the need for an objective assessment of our water resources and water utilization is certainly in order. I say this, having served on a committee of the National Academy which issued a report on alternatives in water management, which deals with the subject and dwells on the subject.