considered to be an area of troublesome depletion, but, of course, pumping costs

have increased because of greater pumping depth.

Depletion in the sense of withdrawal from storage greatly in excess of anticipated natural replenishment has occurred in many small areas scattered over the country, but in only a few large areas and regions. Outstanding examples are the southern High Plains of Texas and New Mexico, north-central Arizona (the Cental Arizona Project area), large areas of the San Joaquin Valley of California's Central Valley, and a substantial number of smaller alluvial valleys in California, Arizona, New Mexico, and locally elsewhere. In all these areas, the depletion is sufficiently severe that plans and projects to ameliorate its effects are in various stages of progress.

Pollution of ground water still is primarily a local problem, but some relatively large and important areas have been affected. Several million spectic tanks and other types of industrial sewage disposal systems serve as point sources of potential pollution to nearby water wells. Relatively few examples of such pollution have occurred in the vicinity of Norfolk, Va., and Anoka, Minn., because of the peculiar character of the soil in these areas. Disposal of a variety of domestic, municipal and industrial wastes in wells and ponds also have caused significant local problems. Typical ones have occurred in limestone ground water systems of Ohio and Florida, as well as in other types of rock in Colorado and Chesapeake Bay area of Maryland. Fortunately, such situations are receiving increasing attention. Hopefully the time is approaching when large quantities of polluted material cannot be dumped into the ground without considerable thought being given to possible consequences. Data of the kind collected by the Geological Survey is essential to such thinking.

Encroachment of sea water in coastal areas is a form of pollution which has occurred in numerous parts of the country including Long Island, New York, Florida, Texas, and California. Most of these situations are under study and plans for remedies are more or less advanced. Creation of a fresh water barrier by installing artificial recharge wells along the coast near Los Angeles, and pilot recharge wells in Long Island are aimed at correcting situations of this kind.

The U.S. Geological Survey uses thousands of test wells and some hundreds of federal and nonfederal cooperators in watching for significant changes in the quantity and quality of ground waters. We conduct extensive research on movement of ground water and ground water contaminants, as well as on the effects of wastes discharged underground in order to predict what changes are likely to occur. In collecting ground water information, as in collecting surface water information, the Survey plays a long-standing third part role in producing objective data which are not influenced or restricted by any management or control responsibility. These are made available quickly and without reservation through the master data system of the Department of the Interior, operated by the Geological Survey, not only to the Water Pollution Control Administration, but to all others who have need for them.

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