

sive chronic injury to pine trees is still serious in the Lake States, the Northwest, and the Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee.

Damage to commercial crops grown near metropolitan areas is serious. Los Angeles County is often used as Exhibit A for a horrible example. But air pollution damage to crops has been found in every county in New Jersey. Cigar-wrapper tobacco grown in the Connecticut Valley has been seriously damaged due to ozone injury. Injury has been reported on 36 different commercial crops. Crop damage has been found in every State with large industrial centers.

Sediment, the product of soil erosion, is a major pollutant and does serious damage to farmers and rural people. Conservative estimates indicate that sediment damages in the upstream watersheds alone come to about \$85 million annually. Sediment fills stream channels flowing through farms and ranches. It fills irrigation canals, farm ponds, and rural reservoirs used for recreation, fishing, irrigation, and farmstead water use.

The thousands of farmers using farm ponds to sell fishing rights are much concerned with the deterioration of water quality by sediment delivery.

Every 1,000 tons of sediment eroded from our fields robs the land of 25,000 pounds of plant nutrients.

There are about 40 million acres of irrigated land in the United States, most of which is in the 17 Western States. Income from nearly a quarter of this acreage is impaired by an accumulation of salt brought in by irrigation water or collected by natural processes.

Historically, farmers have depended on manure as a prime source of soil fertility. During the past two decades tremendous progress has been made in the technical efficiency of fertilizer manufacturing. Nitrogen fertilizer is cheaper now than it was during the depression of the thirties. Consequently, numerous economic studies have shown that it is cheaper for a farmer to fertilize his fields from the fertilizer bag than to haul manure from the barnyard. But this still leaves the livestock farmer with a large mass of matter to dispose of—manure that he usually can't sell, can't give away, and can't burn. With the tight cost-price squeeze that crowds most farmers, relatively little investment can enter into manure handling.

The stuff we are talking about has a characteristic aroma that many find objectionable. Thus, when suburbanites move into farming areas they often object to certain facets of country atmosphere. Frequently, the new suburbanites get a restraining order from the courts to the effect the farmer has to quit his livestock operation or make a very costly move to another location further from suburbia.

The problem of effectively handling and disposing of manure is causing a serious financial burden on many of our farmers, poultrymen, and feedlot operators.

Plant and animal disease agents carried by the environment have caused tremendous losses in agriculture and forestry.

In the 50 years or so since chestnut blight was first discovered in this country, this disease has practically killed all of the American chestnuts, one of our finest hardwoods, in millions of acres of its native range.