

I think we ought to proceed, however, with Dr. Sargent and Dr. Deevey.

Dr. SARGENT. I am chairman of the Human Ecology Committee, and in that capacity would say a few words about the area of human ecology. I am also a dean, so I hope you will be kind to me, Mr. Miller.

Chairman MILLER. Oh, I am very kind. Don't get me wrong, Doctor. I just tell you these things because sometimes even in the sacred white towers you need a little cleaning out. Maybe it is in some of those towers that the ecologists find most of its resistance rather than here.

Mr. DADDARIO. There are hardly any of those white towers left any more.

Dr. SARGENT. In Green Bay we just have a large field, in which someday there will be a university campus.

The area of human ecology has only recently been established within the ecological society but it has had a long tradition which has been rather stormy. I think the position that the current Committee on Human Ecology prefers to take is that really there is only one ecology; what we need to do is bring man back into the ecological thinking.

I think Dr. Cole's remarks emphasize that point of view. Man is a unique organism among the animals that inhabit the globe primarily because he has chosen a somewhat different way to adjust to his environment than other organisms. He has what we call culture. He can modify his environments. For a long time he modified his environment without much regard to the impact the modifications might be having. Now we are faced with a situation where his capability of capturing energy, molding and extracting from the landscape, and so on is producing effects which are harmful not only to him but to the whole living environment.

Our task in human ecology, within the context of the Ecological Society of America, is to bring the human component back into ecology. We are really dealing with one ecology and man's dependence on one terrestrial ecosystems, if you will.

The committee has posed several questions which are in line with John Cantlon's remarks. These are questions which we would like to deal with in a national conference for which we are currently seeking financial support. These questions would be of interest to you, I think, because they relate to the work of your subcommittee.

The first question is, Can systems analysis be used to solve the problems of urban integration? I don't pretend to know the answer to this question, but it does raise some intriguing possibilities.

The second question is, what insights into the use of resources can be derived from basic strategic processes of social and political behavior? The use of resources is largely determined by these behaviors and about them we need to have much more understanding.

What are the alternative strategies for managing the introduction of manmade substances into the biosphere? Here an example is the use of silver iodide in weather modification. Silver is a toxic substance. Not very much is known about biogeochemistry of silver. The evidence so far from measurements of silver in the environment resulting from cloud seeding is that it is at very low levels, but Dr. Charles Cooper of the University of Michigan and I have become concerned about whether or not silver might concentrate as it flows through the ecosystems in the same way that the DDT concentrates.