

of the important problems in our society. It is also a problem loaded with emotion. The spectrum includes those who feel that there is no problem to those who feel that the minute we put our heads outside, we are not going to live more than 2 or 3 years.

In order to develop a meaningful way to tackle a problem as complex as this, we felt that we ought to know more about the technical aspects of the problem. One should not develop an advertising or sales campaign for a product that doesn't exist. It is really not a very easy thing to do. Rather, we should find the meaningful technical aspects of the problem, especially in our areas of expertise. Here we have an advantage, since the ACS comprises 110,000 members including leaders in the academic, industrial, and government communities.

Many among this group feel that this is one of our important social problems. However, they really don't know what to do about it nor their fields of expertise can contribute to solutions. Thus, if we can come up with much more meaningful technical definitions in our areas of expertise, I feel we can contribute much.

Mr. DADDARIO. Dr. Harris, we would rather not, too. But I think this is a time when, recognizing the reasons why this is being avoided in this case, there are high emotions. There are people who are at each end of the spectrum. In my opinion, we don't have the time to work this out over a long period of time. We need an answer, not necessarily an ultimate solution in each instance, but we need to develop some way to get hold of these great problems earlier, rather than later. Somehow these conflicts within your society have to be reconciled—not reconciled so that you have a unanimous approach to things, but it would seem to me it would be even better if your society were to participate in giving us advice with minority points of view, if necessary, so that at least the nature of the conflict could be understood. I am not being critical because I recognize the problems of the society. At the same time there ought to be developed a mechanism of getting these opinions in public where they could then be refined somewhat. People do have a tendency, when they have taken a position, and have been criticized, to perhaps adjust themselves somewhat.

Dr. Price.

Dr. PRICE. I find this discussion extremely helpful, and in fact it is one of the reasons we wanted to come today when our report was still in an incomplete stage so that we could find out the ways we could be most useful. I am sure that if we can see ways we can make recommendations in this area we will be willing to do so.

I think there were several reasons for reluctance to aim at that direction, one of which is we are only one aspect of the problem. The chemists have a competence to deal with only one aspect of the problem. The chemists have a competence to deal with only one facet. For example, the biological problems, ecology, are extremely important parts of evaluating the social and economic aspects. We didn't want to presume to undertake this from only the limited base of chemistry. But I do believe that we ought to try to find ways to make recommendations, and I think when they are clear, we will. But I think it would have been a mistake for us to presume to speak from just the basis of chemistry to make a broad recommendation in these very important areas.

Dr. HARRIS. Early in this undertaking, we met with Don Horning and his staff. We wanted to make a contribution in this area but did