

Secretary UDALL. Congressman, let me say two things:

No. 1, there is no more vital piece of legislation my Department is interested in than this, and I will have my first team to work with you on any detail and answer any questions that we can.

We are in a period right now where we are writing the basic framework oil pollution control legislation. At the time of the *Torrey Canyon* disaster a year ago, then all of us went back to look at the old 1924 act, and the other acts, to see how we would handle this, if this occurred off our shores. We found out that our laws were very inadequate. And that is the reason we made a study. We came in with recommendations, and the Senate did pass a bill last year. So I think this is basic legislation that is very vital. I hope the committee will look at it closely and perfect it and improve it if it can.

DEBT FINANCING BILL NOT A "CURE-ALL"

Mr. CRAMER. Well, I would hope we could get this question of standards finalized without constant changes in the formula. The States will know what is expected of them. The industry will know what is expected of them, and we can get on with the job of cleaning up the rivers. Of course, the bill we have before us is largely a finance bill, and it relates in that respect only to sewage treatment plants, right?

Secretary UDALL. To municipal works; that is correct.

Mr. CRAMER. So even if we pass this bill and the Government commits itself to x billions of dollars as guarantor of these bonds, you are still not going to have "clean rivers."

Industry, agriculture, surface drainage, surface mining drainage, they are all still going to be problems.

I think we ought to be honest with the American taxpayer in saying, "Now, look, if we put up this x billions of dollars, guarantee it, guarantee that we are going to appropriate for it for 30 years in the future", we can't tell them we are going to have clean rivers when we do that. We are just going to make a step in that direction.

Secretary UDALL. I think we are going to see some rivers and lakes cleaned up. I think we have the technological capability of doing it. If we will shift into high gear and get on the schedule that Congress itself laid out for us 2 years ago, if industry will continue to move at the tempo they have been moving at the last year, I think you are going to see some very significant improvement in the water quality of many of the rivers and lakes in this country, something we can take some satisfaction in.

INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION PROBLEM

Mr. CRAMER. Well, that is the goal we all seek. I think, though, we ought to be honest with the taxpayer that this bill falls short of approaching that goal as it relates to Federal financing. It deals only on the financing standpoint of sewage treatment plants, principally government owned. It does not solve the problem of industrial pollution.

And I see no real leadership along that line in trying to get tax deductions or tax credits for industry in order to encourage industry