

application of criminal penalties, where a willful act was determined; expansion of coverage to shore installations; coverage of Puerto Rico (following the recent San Juan Bay disaster), Virgin Islands, Guam and American Samoa; requirement of vessel or shore installation owners to remove discharged oil from navigable waters or pay clean-up costs in all cases, except when due to an act of God. The bill includes two additions in enforcement authority which are of considerable help to the Secretary: (1) Authorization to remove discharged oil from navigable waters and shoreline areas to prevent or mitigate the adverse effects on . . . fish and wildlife, and recreation; and to charge and recover all actual costs incurred. (2) Authorization of appropriations to a revolving fund to finance such clean-up measures.

H.R. 15906 would supplement S. 2760 to help do the job the President has requested be done, only do it better in our estimation. It would prohibit the discharge of oil from a vessel or offshore structure into the waters of the contiguous zone. It would also add a new section providing for the clean up of large discharges of pollutants not limited just to oil.

The President, in his message on "Renewing the Nation," proposed that legislation be provided to control oil pollution and pollution from other substances. These Senate and House bills resulted from this request. H.R. 15906 largely does what S. 2760 purports, but extends such provisions beyond the navigable waters of the U.S. to the contiguous zone, a nine-mile zone beginning on the outer limits of the Territorial Sea. Since winds and currents have considerable effect on the littoral zones of our coastline, such protection as far seaward as possible is absolutely essential and an extension of control to 12 miles offshore would be most desirable. Too, H.R. 15906 provides for an added civil penalty of up to \$1,000 to the civil and criminal penalties contained in S. 2760, an added deterrent to violators. There is also a proviso for the Secretary of the Interior to designate his authority to coordinate clean-up of oil pollution to other Federal agencies where appropriate. In addition, shore installations discharging any other substances posing imminent threat to the public welfare must ameliorate such efforts. I would like to request that this latter section be amended to include consideration for *fish and wildlife resources*, as well as human health and welfare.

Chemical Pollution.—H.R. 15906 provides an additional requirement to that of the Water Quality Act of 1965 that private owners take appropriate actions when they discharge substantial amounts of pollutants into interstate waters, thereby reducing water quality below state standards. The recent Clinch River disaster in Virginia and Tennessee might have been contained or mitigated if such authority were then in effect. (A \$40,000 total judgment for fish killed was obtained against the polluter!) Such spills might not do as extensive damage to fish and wildlife resources if immediate remedial measures are applied. We strongly favor such direction for the Secretary or his delegate to act immediately if the owner fails to do so.

Mr. Chairman, in addition we feel that ample provisions must be made in this proposed legislation to control the use of toxic chemicals that find their way into our coastal marine and inland waterways. Pesticides comprise one of the more "hazardous substances" to aquatic resources.

The nation had been shocked into reality that pesticides could cause considerable damage, when introduced into the aquatic environment during the U.S. Public Health Service's Division of Water Supply and Pollution Control Investigations, concerning the results of studies made along the lower Mississippi River in the Gulf of Mexico since 1960 into the cause of death involving millions of fish in these waters. The results of some three months of intensified investigations carried on by a team of engineers and scientists from the USPHS and the State of Louisiana directly involved water pollution caused by toxic, synthetic and organic materials. Findings indicated that aquatic life was particularly sensitive to pollution from certain synthetic and organic wastes in extremely minute proportions (less than one part per billion) that were identified as causing death through new measuring techniques which enabled scientists to detect and measure toxic substances in quantities as small as parts per trillion.

Two pesticides, endrin and dieldrin, were identified as being directly involving in recurring massive "fish kills" in the Mississippi Drainage Basin and its estuarine waters in the Gulf of Mexico. Most of you people are probably familiar with the details by now of this report. Historically, the warning flag should have been raised following the introduction of DDT as a "miracle" insecticide when it was soon found that side effects were serious enough to be considered of