

but the supply is better in some areas where wages are better. Overall there is a stringency prevailing of truly trained technicians. In too many instances untrained persons are assigned the task of operating the plants, or the plants cannot be operated efficiently or at full capacity for the lack of manpower. Boston's new \$20 million treatment plant is suffering in that very manner.

Adequate funds should be provided for an expanded program of training personnel at all levels of expertise.

Two-thirds of the streams of Appalachia have been proved to be grossly polluted. A principal cause of this is acid drainage from coal mines which are distributed throughout this unfortunate region. Many strip mining operations lie bare, open and abandoned with a constant drainage into nearby streams. A large number of underground mines have been closed down, their entrances imperfectly sealed. These circumstances result in a constant flow of sulfurous, acid substances to the many streams and rivers flowing to the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico.

These same streams and rivers, reinforced by the sanitary wastes, wood pulp and paper mill wastes of the region provide a major portion of the municipal and industrial water supplies for the cities of the seaboard and Gulf areas.

The deteriorated condition of the waters flowing initially through the coal fields require costly and complex purification before they can be rendered potable or suitable for industrial use.

Seals at many long deserted mines have deteriorated and crumbled in many hundreds of instances, permitting free flow of these corrosive substances.

I believe that a pilot demonstration program for solving this problem is clearly indicated.

Estuaries and estuarine areas found at the termini of our many rivers and streams are zones of great productivity. They provide the essential spawning and feeding grounds for the many forms of aquatic life that are the foundation for the harvestable resources of the sea.

They form the irreplaceable habitat for a vast array of birds. It is the source of many foods such as shrimp, crab, clams and oysters.

There where the fresh water and the salt water intermingle is where beauty, recreation, and great economic activity can be found. Unfortunately, the considerable natural resources of these areas are being threatened even as the other navigable waters of the Nation. The accumulated wastes of upstream cities, farms, industries, and other activities are concentrated here. Civilization, modern version, has spread over the sands, salt marshes, and shallow waters of our shorelines. Many estuaries have already been ruined, many oyster beds have been closed because the water is so polluted that it is unsafe to eat oysters taken from them.

Wetlands are constantly being lost to the land speculator and real estate developer.

Traditionally, Americans have looked upon wetlands as wasteland. Thus, it has become customary to treat them as dumps. Factories, homes, hotels, all find coastal marshes and tidewater flats handy repositories for their garbage and other wastes.

Marine life which normally proliferates within the delicately balanced estuarine environment, and which provides the nourishment for a large proportion of the economically valuable products of the fishing industry is being destroyed. Recreational opportunities are being lost due to deterioration of the environment.

It is highly important that this situation be corrected before the valuable natural resource is destroyed.

There should be an immediate survey and study of the potentials of the resources of estuarine areas. The end result should be development of means to prevent, abate and control the pollution now taking place almost without restraint. It may be that some estuarine areas should be set aside and preserved in their primitive natural state, but in any event they are too valuable to be allowed to become extinct as productive areas.

Federal, State and local agencies should cooperate in an intensive effort to preserve them. Ample authority and funds should be provided for the Federal Government to organize and coordinate a broadbased investigation of methods to combat the present situation.

If any of the language in the bills which I have introduced could be construed to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Interior, then, I request that the Committee modify the language of my bills to correct this situation.