Water Pollution Becomes Major Problem In Canada

By GREG MacDonald
Canadian Press Staff Writer

Residents along stretches of the St. Lawrence River in Quebec often have to keep their windows closed to shut out the smell.

The Don River which runs through Toronto into Lake Ontario sometimes is dyed red or blue because of industrial waste.

Fish eggs and food are destroyed in British Columbia mountain streams as a by-product of logging.

Water polluting in Canada is causing concern among federal, provincial and municipal officials.

Educational programs have been started by many communities and at different levels of government to tell the public what it is all about.

And in some cases they appear to be having some success. In Quebec recently, a man wrote provincial authorities asking for permission before emptying the water from his swimming pool into the St. Lawrence.

CAUSED OUTCRY

In Prince Edward Island this year a farmer was convicted of dumping poison from potato spray into a stream. Public outcry in Charlottetown resulted in a move by the health department reducing pollution in that city's harbor.

It is an international problem along the Canada-United States border, and there authorities regard the polluting effects of industrial waste as an even greater challenge than earlier spread such diseases as typhoid fever.

Pollution of the boundary waters has been a continuing problem for more than 50 years and now has come to the point where bacterial contamination no longer is the dominant factor.

"The pollution effects of industrial wastes today," a health department report says, "present a much greater challenge towards the preservation of the tremendous asset shared by both countries in these boundary waters.

At the annual meeting of the International Water Pollution Control Federation in Toronto this month, many experts said there is a need for a greater awareness by the public on pollution problems.

CAN LOWER VALUES

It was shown that water pollution can endanger health, spoil recreation, lower property values, affect drinking water, cause offensive odors and even wipe out commercial fishing.

The problem in Canada, however, is not as acute as in the United States, says Dr. Albert E. Berry of the Ontario Water Resources Commission a former chairman of the federation.

Pollution control in this country is mainly the responsibility of the provinces. Some degree of help is given by the federal government, which in co-operation with the United States, looks after boundary waters.

Much of the problem is caused by domestic sewage. Every day, from Canadian households alone more than 2,500,000,000 gallons of raw or partly treated sewage are dumped into rivers and lakes.

But industrial wastes are a problem in some areas, especially in parts of Quebec.

Gustave Prevost, chairman of the Quebec water purification board, speaking at the federation meeting, called for a rule, similar to the one governing the Food and Drug Act, to make it the responsibility of the company and not the government, to show their wastes are harmless.

In Alberta, cities and industries must treat their own wastes to a degree specified by the provincial board of health. The province maintains staff and laboratory facilities to assess water quality.

British Columbia's main threat to the purity of lakes and streams on the west coast and Vancouver Island is the lumber industry, said I.L. Whiller, a fish and game official.

Manitoba has a sanitary control commission under the minister of health. Metropolitan Winnipeg has a 10-year plan—expected to be substantially completed in five years — for combatting pollution the year around.

New Brunswick's water authority has a policy which calls for all new industries, subdivisions and institutions to treat wastes adequately and also reports "encouraging progress" with established institutions.

CASCUMPEC

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Lockerby who are employed in Tyne Valley Health Centre were weekend visitors to their home here.

Mrs. Rustin MacNevin entertained a number of her friends at a Stanley party on Thursday evening, Sept. 27th.

Mr and Mrs. Hylson Proude, Charlottetown, were recent weekend guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Thomas.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Graham. Greenmount, visited with relatives in Cascumpec on Sunday, Sept. 30.

Mr Bruce Carruthers, Jr., is busily engaged in carpenter work in O'Leary where he took the contract of building Mr. Ralph Bishop's house.

Mrs. Russell Leard has returned to her home after spending an enjoyable four weeks vacation in Toronto, the guest of her son and daughter-in-law, Rev. and Mrs. Earle Leard.

Anti-Combines Act Probes Cost More Than $300,000

By KEN KELLY

OTTAWA (CP)—The Crown's unsuccessful attempt to prove a lessening of competition from the merger activities of Canadian Breweries Limited cost the public treasury more than $125,000 for legal and economic advice.

The case, one of the rare uses of merger sections of the anti-combines law, was the costliest among more than a score of anti-combines investigations since 1959 which cost a total of more than $300,000 in legal and economic fees.

Next to the beer case, prosecutions in eastern and western Canada in the sugar industry cost the most—some $64,150 in legal and economic fees. Lists of the fees and recipients were tabled in Parliament last week.

TAYLOR CHARGED

The beer case grew out of a 1955 report of the Restrictive Trade Practices Commission on mergers of 27 beer companies across Canada. Canadian Breweries, headed by Toronto industrialist E. P. Taylor, was charged.

After a 38-day trial, the Ontario Supreme Court ruled in 1960 that Crown failed to prove the mergers gave Canadian Breweries power to carry on business without competition.

The federal government decided against appealing the decision in view of the court's finding that the extent and effect of beer price controls by provincial liquor boards takes the industry out of the field of price competition.

The largest single payment for legal advice and expenses was for preparation and prosecution of the beer case. It totalled $58,979.60 and went to lawyer R. F. Wilson, of Toronto.

Joey Smallwood Announces Candidates For 14 Seats

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP) — Premier Smallwood announced candidates Saturday for 14 of the 42 seats his Liberal party will contest in the Nov. 19 provincial election. Nov. 9 is nomination day.

Present members re-offering include Fisheries Minister John T. Cheeseman in Hermitage; Highways Minister F. W. Rowe in White Bay South; Welfare Minister C. Max Lane, St. Barbe South; Public Works Minister James R. Chalker, St. Barbe North; Municipal Works and Supply Minister Beaton J. Abbott, Gander; Attorney-General Leslie R. Curtis, Twillingate; Earl Winsor, Labrador North; Gerald Hill, Labrador South; William Smallwood, Green Bay, and Raymond Guy, Grand Falls.

New candidates will include H. V. R. Earle, Fortune, E. P. Henley, Labrador West; Walter Carter, White Bay North, and Mayor Harold Starkes of Lewisporte, will run in the new district of Lewisporte.

Mr. Lane, who had represented White Bay North in the last House, moves to St. Barbe South, a new district created by splitting St. Barbe. Mr. Chalker, who had represented St. Barbe, will run in St. Barbe North.

Cheeseman, who had represented Burgeo and La Poile, moves to Hermitage, left vacant by the retirement of Speaker John R. Courage, who represented the old district of Fortune Bay-Hermitage.

Fortune Bay will be represented by Mr. Earle, a newcomer. Mr. Henley and Mayor Starkes also are candidates in new districts created when the seats in the House of Assembly were increased from 36 to 42 last spring.

TO LAUNCH "ANNA"

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The U.S. defence department plans to left a flashing beacon satellite into orbit Tuesday to measure the earth more accurately, it was announced Saturday. The satellite is named Anna, for army, navy, air force and NASA, the participating

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