Government Concern??? Hartford Car Ban!!!

by Nancy Stedman

Solutions

A letter writer in Chicago, Mrs. Esther Friedman, proposes her own solution to environmental problems. "Why don't we go ahead with much more pollution? In that way, the bodies of the younger generation can build up immunities. That in turn, will produce offspring with built-in antipollution protection.

Through the years, we have developed many pesticides. And what happened? The bugs came alo ng with an entire new generation that were completely immune. Are we going to allow the infinitesimal bug to out-smart us?"

Chicago Daily News, February 4, 1970

Troubled Waters

If the government is so concerned about pollution, then why is the U.S. Navy allowed to dump raw sewage into the Thames River in New London, Connecticut???? The Navy makes fishing VERY interesting... If the government is so concerned about pollution, why does it award thousands of dollars worth of defense contracts to Electric Boat General Dynamics (the submarine people) when EB is one of the major polluters of the Thames River (along with Dow Chemical)????

Has anyone been swimming in the Connecticut River lately????

Try the water around

the Connecticut River lately????
Try the water around
Springfield...or Hartford...
In Great Barrington, Mass., the
favorite garbage dump is the
Housatonic River. In Sharon, Ct.,
the favorite swimming spot is the
Housatonic River...
Has anyone been clamming or
scalloping in the Niantic River
lately? Perhaps the refuse and
sewage from a dozen marinas
could account for the rapid
disappearance of shellfish from
the river...

Law Suits

Lawsuits concerning pollution have recently been filed against America's largest industries by several government units and individual citizens.

The lawsuits include:

— A \$250 million suit filed by Florida abainst Humble Oil, a subsidiary of Standard Oil of New Jersey, concerning Florida's tourist reputation being damaged by an oil slick in Tampa Bay.

— A Federal Court suit by California charging the four major U.S. auto makers with conspiracy to halt the development of smog control devices. California is asking the court to order the companies to install anti-smog equipment on used cars in the state at the auto manufacturer's expense.

expense.

-- A damage suit against Chevron Oil Co. by two Louisiana oyster fishermen for oil slicks.

Return Of The Non-Returnables

In Bloomfield Hills, Mich., students from Andover High have started a campaign dubbed "The Return of the Non-Returnables." In one week about 80 students of the Andover Students for Environmental Quality Club returned more than 100 packages of "non-returnable" bottles and cans to producers by mail. The packages included a letter from the club asking the producer to stop using throwaways and start developing alternative methods of packaging.

We Want To Know Who!!!

The Environmental Offensive has announced that they may take legal action to obtain information pertaining to SO₂ pollution. They have hired attorney Igor Sikorsky, a specialist in environmental law, to issue a formal demand to Dr. Franklin Foote in order to gain a list of the 12 top sulfer dioxide emitters together with the tonnage per day

HELCO is obviously first on the list. On the average, they allow 36 tons of SO₂ per day, gush into our environment. Other polluters are now being sought but Foote stated that it was not public information and admitted that it was incomplete and inaccurate. The Environmental

Note: (SO₂, sulfur dioxide is 100 times more lethal than carbon

The earth is dying while scientists research remedies to the environmental crisis and politicians play with a new campaign issue. Prevention of further pollution can only be started by immediate action, and until permanent solutions are found, stopgap measures must be adopted. One such measure is suggested by Paul Goodman's essay, "Banning Cars from Manhattan." Its main concept is relevant to urban ecology. Presupposing the adoption of a non-polluting intracity transportation system, institution of a ban on city traffic in Hartford could become a prelude to similar nation-wide action. The experimental banning of automobiles and buses from Hartford would result in substantial purification of the city's air by (a) decreasing air and noise pollution, and by (b) increasing the supply of oxygen.

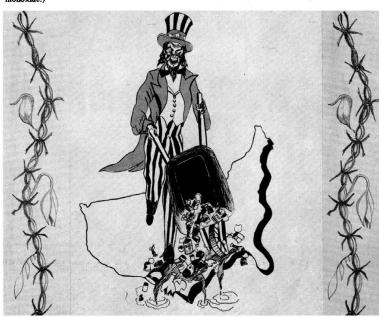
The contribution of The contribution of combustion engine motor vehicles to air pollution cannot be overemphasized. In the Capitol Region, cars daily produce 960.5 tons of pollutants, 785 tons of which are carbon monoxide, constituting 81.1% of the area's total air pollution. The sheer

amount of automobiles and buses traveling daily in Hartford is hinted at by the table in the 1960 Unites States Census report which hinted at by the table in the 1960 Unites States Census report which documents the number of workers employed in Hartford who are residents of the city and its metropolitan area and the means of transportation they use in commuting to and from work. Out of a total of 215,356 people fourteen years of age and older who work in Hartford, 148,324 ride to work in a private automobile or carpool, and 31,467 ride a bus. The amount of ve hicles in yolved in non-commuting city traffic cannot be guessed at, but it must be great. Obviously, the removal of buses and passenger cars from the city streets, by removing the major cause of air pollution, would effect a dramatic decrease in the amount of pollutants in the air.

While the average American pays some attention to the unhealthy aspects of air pollution, he tends to ignore the effects of noise pollution. The desirability of its disposal, then, must be demonstrated. Constant noise pollution affects hearing by causing the gradual deterioration of the cells which carry sound from the ear to the brain. Most Americans have already lost a substantial part of their hearing

from the ear to the brain, most Americans have already lost a substantial part of their hearing faculties without realizing it. Moreover, noise pollution has been linked with other physical and psychological ailments. Researchers suggest a causal link between noise pollution and mental illness, stomach ulcers, indigestion, involuntary urination, impaired vision, spinalmeningitis, hy pertension, excessive cholesterol in the arteries, and coronary troubles. The usual level of noise which the urban American hears has risen 100% since 1955. Continued exposure to 85 decibels of noise will start deterioration of hearing. An automobile produces up to 70 decibels, trucks and buses account for 95 decibels, and heavy city traffic frequently averages 90 decibels. Ineffectual attempts at controlling urban noise have been aimed at banning horn-blowing and the playing of transistor radios in motor vehicles, but these have not touched the main source of automotive noise, the engine. Listening to Hartford's noise pollution demonstrates that automobiles are a major contributor to the problem and that the only effective means of reducing noise pollution would be the banning of motor vehicles.

Furthermore, the banning of motor vehicles would open to revitalization land now devoted to parking lots and paved roads. The more open land, the more plants, and therefore the greater will be the oxygen supply. The prevalence of carbon monixide and other noxious gases in the air necessitates an increase in the amount of oxygen to counterbalance them, but people are killing their main source of oxygen, photosynthesizing marine life, by dumping DDT and similar chemicals into the ocean. Americans are consuming more and more oxygen by burning (oxidizing) lucels. Thus, a new source of oxygen is needed. Banning of automobiles in Hartford would drastically reduce the amount of paved streets and larging lots. A skeletal system of highways and thruways would



"If President Nixon's war on pollution is as successful as President Johnson's war on poverty, there are going to be a lot of dirty poor people around."—Martin and Rowan, Laugh-In.

Announcing The Winner

Who Pollutes More Contest

RUNNERS-UP

Sweden says her air pollution is becoming unbearable Canada is itching because of the phosphate level in detergents. Russian industrialists battle conservationists over the world's deepest lake. Norway has warned that the fish off her coast are doomed to extinction. The Aswan Dam threatens Egyptians with extensive earthquake damages. South Vietnam suffers from extensive defoliation damage.

Hungary, Bulgaria, and Czechosłovakia suffer from thick smog.

Germans fall ill because of drinking the Danube's water.

France's fisherman have to dump their tuna back in the sea because they smell of petro.

Spanish peasants stare at the black smut on their beaches. The United States: chokes to death,

wades in sewage, stumbles through garbage, drinks DDT, sees two feet ahead of her. swims in her oil, chops all her trees, kills all of her grass burns anything and everything

litters space,

WE WIN WEWINIIIIIIIIII

OUR RATIONALIZATION???????????? "IT'S CHEAPER TO POLLUTE"
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

(we hold our head up high...but we cough)