

**UNIQUE
RESPONSE
TO
"60 MINUTES"**

The Illinois Power Company has received more than 1,500 requests for its film on the Clinton nuclear plant under construction in central Illinois.

Last November the CBS news feature program "60 Minutes" presented the project as a mismanaged white elephant. Since CBS refused to air Illinois Power's response to the show, except for a correction of two minor details, the company put together its own 42-minute point-by-point refutation of inaccuracies aired nationwide by Harry Reasoner of the program. The film, according to

"Fusion" magazine, is particularly interesting because Illinois Power filmed CBS's filming and shows what the network chose to delete.

Copies of the rebuttal are available by writing Harold Deakins, Illinois Power Co., 500 South 27 Street, Decatur, Illinois 62525. There's no charge, but mail a blank video cassette in either width, and if you plan to use it with a Betamax, specify the speed.

We'll order one for a future RDC meeting.

**BOB HARTIG
AND
BOB REEVE**

The Council lost one of its founders and a good friend in August. Bob Hartig, one of the co-founders of OMAR which later became Resource Development Council died in a small plane crash August 24, 1980 at Hewitt Lake. His friends in the Council mourn his passing.

The following day, August 25, 1980, Bob Reeve, Honorary Advisor to the Council, passed away. Bob's friendship with the Council began at the outset for he, too, was a lifelong supporter of the free-enterprise system for Alaska and continued healthy growth in the state.

TRANS-ALASKA OIL PIPELINE COLLECTORS' ITEMS

Commemorative plaques and desk weights certified to contain oil from the FIRST BARREL OF OIL received at Valdez, Alaska, from Prudhoe Bay, July 28, 1977:

WALNUT PLAQUES Distinctive and elegantly designed, each plaque is numbered for one of 799 pipeline miles. The map of Alaska is carved in bas relief, set off by inset brass corners and inscribed plate, raised lettering and miniature pipeline containing Prudhoe Bay oil. Size: 12" x 14" Cost: \$200

DESK WEIGHTS Clear lucite desk weight measures 4 1/2 x 3 3/4 x 1 1/2 inches with red base. Tube of oil, pipeline mile and inscription in center. Cost: \$30

True collectors' items, only 799 of each were manufactured. Register of owners maintained at Resource Development Council. Send check or money order to (Resource Development Council), Box 516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510.

 **Resource Development Council**
for Alaska, Inc.

Box 516, Anchorage, Alaska 99510

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RESOURCE REVIEW

BOX 516

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SEPTEMBER 1980

**DOW
ANSWERS
CHARGES**

Environmental Action, a professional lobbying organization based in Washington, D.C., has claimed that Dow Chemical acted with "environmental irresponsibility" on eleven occasions in the last sixteen years.

Because these claims have been reported in the press with little explanation other than the fact the charges were made, we asked Dow Chemical to respond. As you may have guessed, the charges appear to have almost no relationship to the pertinent events.

Space requirements prevent our printing the entire response but it is available by calling 278-9615. Here are some of the shorter charges and responses:

CHARGE: Dow was fined in 1979 for violation of its water license at its Midland, Michigan plant.

RESPONSE: This was for a technical problem associated with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System. It involved a sampling problem caused by a power outage at the plant, and relocation of some instruments. It did not involve illegal discharge of wastes into the river.

CHARGE: Dow's Freeport, Texas plant was the target of an Environmental Protection Agency's administrative order during the years 1976, 1978 and 1979 for exceeding its water effluent limits.

RESPONSE: Permits issued the Freeport plant were based on abatement strategies to take place over a period of several years. These permits called for development of new technologies. All permit conditions were achieved except for brief periods when the plant was undergoing production upsets. All administrative orders were answered satisfactorily and no citations were issued for permit violations.

CHARGE: Dow was cited and fined for safety violations in 1979 as a result of an accident at its Pittsburg, California plant.

RESPONSE: Dow was not cited, nor was it fined, as a result of this accident.

CHARGE: Dow was cited and fined in 1974 for air pollution violations at its Freeport, Texas plant.

RESPONSE: In 1974 Dow received a citation from Harris County, accusing it of violating a rule that involved maintenance records. A section of a pipeline was to be taken out of service for maintenance, and the gas in the line was flared so that the maintenance operation could take place. Harris County -- which is Houston, not Freeport -- claimed Dow did not keep proper maintenance records for this incident. Dow agreed and paid the fine. No air violations were involved.

**MAT-SU
DEVELOPMENT
PLANS
TAKE
SHAPE**

In an upbeat meeting to a standing-room-only crowd, two representatives of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough laid out, complete with timetables, plans for strengthening the area's economic base.

RDC members and guests heard John Nash, farmer and borough assemblyman and Allan Lesche, borough attorney, explain specific agricultural and industrial projects slated for the Point MacKenzie area.

Looking at the borough as a "developing nation" with vast resource potential, they said development plans were being undertaken with an integrated approach.

A dairy project in the mill involves making

some 15,000 acres of Point MacKenzie land available by lottery to dairy farmers for \$100 an acre. Now in its second year, the project would increase milk cows in production to 2-3,000 by 1985. Value of dairy products was projected to be \$8 million that same year. Mill feed required for the animals (1600 tons per month) could primarily come from the Delta barley project.

John Nash said fifteen dairy farms were envisioned at a minimum investment of \$1.5 million each; aside from the provision of low-cost loans by the state, no other protective tariffs or subsidies were involved.

Continued next page

Allan Tesche said the borough would develop appropriate port facilities within the Point MacKenzie area in connection with agricultural and other industrial uses. It would be primarily an export port.

The borough has made aggressive overtures to the Dow/Shell consortium to locate a petrochemicals complex there. That, plus activities associated with the upcoming oil and gas lease sale 33, gives the borough confidence that its long-standing economic woes may be subsiding.

The area's most abundant resource is coal; deposits are relatively well-defined and are large enough to eventually support a six million ton per year market. Their proximity to tidewater presents a significant advantage to serving Pacific Rim markets. In addition to extraction, gasification and liquefaction projects are being considered, and there is potential for processing the coal into plastics and synthetics.

Billions of tons of dry weight peat, which has a heating value similar to that of lignite coal, are

believed to be accessible for recovery and use as soil conditioners and/or for energy related uses.

Some 1.2 million acres of the borough are classified as commercial forest land capable of annually producing over 20 cubic feet of industrial wood per acre.

Commercial quantities of limestone and other materials needed to produce cement are located in the borough, and significant interest has been expressed in establishing a cement industry at Point MacKenzie.

Other minerals believed to be available in commercial quantities are cadmium, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, lead mercury, nickel, tin, titanium, tungsten, uranium, zinc, gold, platinum and silver.

Tesche said Kaiser Aluminum was exploring the possibility of processing aluminum in the borough and that a crude oil petrochemical facility was also being discussed.

Our congratulations go to the borough representatives for expertly fielding some 40 minutes of questions from the interested audience.

GOVERNMENT SERVICE JUNKIES

Excerpts from a speech by Gerald J. Thompson, Secretary of the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services:

"We have a habit in this state -- in the whole nation for that matter -- a habit of turning our problems over to the government.

"We're hooked. We're a society of government-service junkies . . . We allow problems to develop in our families, our friends, our neighborhoods, our businesses and our communities -- and then when those problems reach crisis proportions, when they're so obvious they can no longer be ignored, we hand them over to the state or federal government and say, 'Here, you deal with this. It's too much for us.'

"We're pouring a billion dollars a year into management of crises (Washington State health services) and we could probably double that and

still not get a handle on the problems. If somebody in our society -- not the government -- began putting that sort of effort into attacking the root cause of these problems then we'd begin to see some real improvement.

"As we rely more on government agencies to handle our problems, we become less effective in dealing with them ourselves . . . We lose skills. We forget how to do certain things, and if the process goes on long enough, we may even forget that there was ever another way."

Thompson says the only way to kick the habit is to acknowledge the addiction and have a sincere desire to solve the problem. He says we must make tough decisions about who's responsible for what and then place the responsibility where it belongs.

NEW GAS LINE PROPOSED

Five natural gas companies have filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to build a 583-mile gas pipeline that would eventually deliver up to 800 million cubic feet of natural gas a day from the Rocky Mountain Overthrust Belt region to California consumers.

Initial phase deliveries would be about 410 million cubic feet a day in winter 1982.

The consortium consists of Pacific Gas Trans-

mission Co. (a subsidiary of Pacific Gas & Electric Co.), Pacific Interstate Transmission Co., (a subsidiary of Pacific Lighting Corp.), El Paso Natural Gas Co., Northwest Pipeline Corp. and Rocky Mountain Pipeline Co.

California consumers now use about 4.5 billion cubic feet of natural gas a day; demand is reported to be running at 5 bcfd and expected to continue to grow to about 6 bcfd by 1990.

A LAWSUIT THAT TURNS TABLES

For more than a decade outraged environmentalists have marched countless companies into court on charges that they are polluting nature. But a corporation has turned the tables and sued the environmentalists for libel. One year ago, Rick Webb, 31, coordinator of West Virginia Mountain Stream Monitors Project, an environmental group, charged in his sporadically produced newsletter that the

strip-mine operation of the D.I.M. (Coal Corp. of Buckhannon, W. Va., had "destroyed" seven miles of trout streams on the Buckhannon River as a result of sulfuric acid and iron poisoning. Webb's complaint helped result in a federal inspection and a pollution study of land near the mines by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Though firms normally are reluctant to chal-

GETTING THE MOST FROM WOOD RESOURCES

Angelo Mancini, Trustee of Outdoors Unlimited, Inc., spoke at a recent conference of the Rocky Mountain Forest Industries. Mancini, on the subject of resources, said they were not finite, and above all were not static.

"Fifty years ago it would take several walnut logs to panel a room," Mancini said. "Today we can panel a room with a beautiful walnut paneling made from one or even just part of one log. It looks every bit as good. It is real walnut, it's much less expensive than solid walnut boards. Though the supply of walnut logs has decreased, the resource has increased."

Mancini cited another example of expanding the resources -- that of finger-jointing. "Every piece of moulding you buy today is solid, clear wood, made from finger-joined small pieces. Mills used to

throw away small pieces of studs. Now those pieces and the studs produced that way are worth more than regular studs because they resist warping -- a valuable resource made from nothing, from 'neutral' stuff, by simply adding a touch of knowledge, a pinch of technology and a spoonful of good old American enterprise."

Tomorrow, he said, there will be absolutely no wood waste, since biomass is becoming an important fuel resource as either firewood or alcohol.

Mancini criticized preservationist groups for their vision of a world of limited, finite resources. "What they are forever talking about 'conserving' is not conserving at all, but is instead 'preserving' from use. Using resources wisely for the good of the nation is true conservation."

BEAN POT WITHDRAWN

A referendum on the ballot in Maine has been a hot political issue which has polarized the venerable L. L. Bean Company at its Freeport distribution center with one of its state environmental groups.

If passed the referendum would close down a nuclear power plant in the state which supplies cheaper power to Maine customers plus some neighbors. Not only would the northerners be faced with higher power costs, but the precedent set could be dangerous to the future of other nuclear plants in the nation.

The environmental group in question had, pre-

dictably, been campaigning for the referendum and shut-down. Bean, Inc., the famous catalogue entrepreneur, withdrew a promised donation of several thousand dollars to the group and threatened to withdraw future contributions if the obstructionism continues.

L. L. Bean is a retailer of outdoor equipment and might well be expected to side with the anti-nukes and environmentalists, but then it all depends, as the cliché goes, on whose ox is being gored.

Ed. note: The voters kept the plant open!

ECHO FROM NEVADA

Congressman Jim Santini, Democrat of Nevada and chairman of the House Interior Subcommittee on Mines and Minerals, recently underscored the Council's concerns about mineral dependence of the U.S. in addition to our energy dependence.

Following a trip to South Africa, Santini produced statistics showing America imports more than 50% of 23 critical minerals and 100% of its manganese, cobalt, chromium and platinum. He points out that the U.S. is doing little to protect its own interests. His subcommittee is holding a hearing soon on Soviet acquisition and security of key minerals leading to what Santini calls a "resource war" with

the U.S. In a press conference, Santini noted that "without chromium or cobalt, we could not build an automobile, a computer, a cutting tool and other high technology equipment. We could not run a train, process foods, build an oil refinery or a power station under present laws."

He's calling for a unified federal effort within our government to deal with strategic minerals.

Now, if only more of the congress, as well as administration, awaken to real world issues of this kind, perhaps some of Alaska's problems will be addressed with intelligence and reason.

VALDEZ INCREASES MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

RDC Vice President and Special Consultant Bob Fleming met with the Valdez City Council and a crowd of local citizens this month as councilmen considered, among other issues, its membership in the Resource Development Council.

City Manager Mark Lewis and Mayor Pro-Tem Chuck LaPage commended RDC for its work on a number of development "fronts" and said they wanted to do their part to assist RDC's future efforts.

To back that up the Council voted unanimously to increase its monthly membership from \$1,080 to \$2,000.

In addition to Valdez's consistent financial support, the community has always come through

when we needed representation by local residents. Recently Chuck LaPage and Chamber President Bob Childers compiled an excellent portfolio of statistical information and presented it to Port Angeles, Washington residents (who would be impacted by the Northern Tier Pipeline project). The mayor pro-tem also dropped everything on a moment's notice in mid-September to accompany RDC members lobbying on the d-2 land issue in Washington, D.C. It is this kind of commitment that greatly enhances the effectiveness of RDC's statewide efforts to improve Alaska's economy. Thanks, Valdez.

Without the memberships of a number of local communities, RDC would not be able to address the issues that affect them all.

**TO
SPRAY
OR
NOT
TO
SPRAY?**

The agricultural community of Kettleman City, California decided last year to eliminate the use of pesticides for this year's growing season.

Similar to the "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes," the community has since been overrun with caterpillars. Until they build their cocoons and turn into months, caterpillars are everywhere. They have

eaten all the crops and are now into lawns, gardens and flowers.

The situation has reached crisis proportions, with families being forced to stay inside to avoid being covered with the creepy crawlies.

According to California television news, residents have decided they prefer pesticides to the hairy creatures.

**CIVIL
WAR**

The Northwest Mining Association newsletter for September is a special Alaska issue and carries an excellent editorial by Walter L. Mote, President, WLM Associates, Inc.

Mote is former administrative assistant for three vice presidents, Rockefeller, Agnew and Ford. Now he is the Mining Association's unofficial "man in Washington" and legislative assistant on Alaska land issues.

Mote's editorial this month carries the title "THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES - PLUS 120 YEARS". Mote sees the "war" as a result of the industrial eastern states trying to maintain superiority over the western states. This civil war shifts from a north-south to east-west bruhaha. Warriors for the east such as Senator Tsongas want to lock up enough western lands so the mineral resources utilized by the eastern industrialists will have to

come from "emerging third world nations" . . . which just happens to be a cheaper source with a tax break for the sponsor.

Mote turns the bright lights on the historical reasons for war between the states 120 years ago, and suggests that the same elements persist today in the east-west struggle for and against industrial growth in the west. It explains the "environmental" positions of Tsongas, Seiberling, Kennedy and Anderson, but leaves one wondering about the likes of Mo Udall from Arizona.

Since his contention is that this "war", like the last one, is economic and not over slavery or the environment, Mote concludes we should ponder the candidates and turn out en masse November 4 to record our feelings and make it known where our sentiments lie.

**PATS
ON
THE
BACK
TO
RDC**

Can't begin to tell you how many members (and non-members) have congratulated RDC for its position and efforts opposing state funding for contracts to AKpig, the Alaska Center for Policy Studies and attorneys James Grandjean and John Hedlund. Your kind words are most appreciated.

And, a nice letter from Dow Chemical U.S.A. with these words: "Your efforts played a major role in encouraging the state to make a timely, fair and crisp decision. I think all the companies who made

proposals for the petrochemical project consider the Council's interest and efforts to have been most important in encouraging a decision. It will do much to help assure that a petrochemical industry does become a reality in Alaska, and that it will be done in a manner in which all of us can be proud."

We also appreciate the commendations given staff researcher Larry Hayden for his background paper on wetlands. (Copies are available on request.)

**WHO
IS
JOHN
ANDERSON?**

In a recent presidential preference poll in Fairbanks, John Anderson got a surprising number of votes; so many that one must conclude that a lot of people don't realize, or have forgotten, that he is the same John Anderson who co-authored the infamous Anderson-Udall environmental land bill, HR 39, which would lock up some 140 million acres of Alaska.

If that isn't enough, he is also the same presidential candidate who has repeatedly proclaimed in campaign speeches . . . in the east of course . . . that Alaska's oil wealth should be shared with some of the "poorer eastern states". Redistribution of wealth; the egalitarian philosophy is alive and well along the Johnson campaign trail.

**FUEDAL
FUTILITY**

A little refresher for those who have been too long from history books in school. The word "Feudalism" is being re-introduced into the language in describing federal land policies of today and some of us may have forgotten how it worked several hundred years ago in Europe.

The feudal system was prevalent in Europe between the 9th and 15th centuries and was both political and social. Its players were lords of the land and vassals, or serfs, who were bound to the soil by homage paid to the lords for use of land held in fee.

The serfs paid homage not only in produce of the land, but in military service to their lords. Lords

on the other hand served their subjects with use of land and with "protection". The share to be paid to lords was generally determined more or less arbitrarily by the lord of the land.

In the 19th century in Sicily a similar relationship evolved between land tenants and what was actually a system called mafia where protection was sold and safety of tenants guaranteed, usually from being plundered by other mafia systems.

There are some similarities between both of these tried and more or less discarded systems and the so-called "public land" systems being promoted today.

allenge such allegations in court because the cases can result in bad publicity, D.I.M. decided to fight. Last month it filed a \$200,000 libel suit charging that Webb's account was "totally false and untrue, defamatory and libelous, intentionally and maliciously published."

**FOCUS
ON
ALASKA'S
COAL
1980**

OCTOBER 21-23,

An upcoming conference at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, will be of great interest to many RDC members.

Focused entirely on coal resources, conference participants will:

-Review results of resource evaluation studies being conducted by public and private entities involved in coal exploration;

-Hear an update of Alaskan coal research conducted at educational institutions;

-Learn of existing studies and plans for making low-cost local coal available to Bush Alaska;

Webb claims he is not dismayed by the suit, saying, "It has spotlighted the problem better than we ever could have done." Some businessmen, though, feel that the case will have a sobering effect on environmental activists.. **TIME, August 25, 1980**

--Learn of developments in production of power from coal, and the future of coal development in Alaska.

Organizations involved in creating a coal export industry will be invited to present their views on the potential of exporting to the West Coast and Pacific Rim nations.

As enrollment is limited, early registration is crucial. Call RDC for information or write: Conferences & Institutes, 117 Eielson Building, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

**PUBLIC
OPINION
SURVEY
CONDUCTED
AT
STATE
FAIR**

About 500 people participated in RDC's public opinion survey the first two weekends in September. It was a lengthy questionnaire, and we appreciated the time and thoughtfulness given the questions.

A wide range of subjects was addressed -- coastal zone management, offshore oil development, government spending, tax policies, Sagebrush Rebellion, Knik Arm crossing, capital move, Susitna

hydropower, regulatory reform, transportation, tidal power, forestry management, gas line financing -- to name a few.

The survey is also being mailed to RDC members to determine how the opinions of our members and state fair participants correlate.

A similar questionnaire has been mailed to all candidates for public office to determine their positions on development and economic issues.

EDITORIAL

Eleven years ago Congress gave us the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and a bonus of the Environmental Protection Agency. Soon after that "environmental impact statements" became household words.

In the past five years the Resource Development Council has been involved with countless environmental impact statements. During that time we have had members of other groups -- obstructionists we call them -- actually tell us that no matter how well the environmental review is conducted, no matter how environmentally benign the project is, no matter how badly it is needed by society, they will still file a lawsuit to stop the development when the process is completed. And they do. The law is on their side.

Obviously this abuse of power is incredibly frustrating to an organization whose goals are to develop a sound economic base in a clean environment.

What has occurred is that the NEPA process has become a breeding ground for lawsuits, with the groups supporting no-growth taking full advantage of the law; our side, on the other hand, lacks the legal standing to support its point of view. Our activities favoring specific development projects in Alaska are generally supported by 80% or more of the population; yet we lose, the nation loses, and worse, you lose when development is paralyzed.

Our concern over the NEPA process also relates

to its pervasiveness, which gives the federal government almost total control over what can be done at local and state levels. We are certain congress did not intend NEPA to be such an extreme intrusion into a state's jurisdiction over its own lands, its own resources.

But that is where we are. Because of obstructionist activities supported by laws and the bureaucracy, getting almost anything done in the free enterprise system becomes "mission impossible."

Michael McCloskey of the Sierra Club tells us his group is devoting all its resources to stopping development in Alaska. Herbert Meyer, author of "The War Against Progress" confirms that Alaska has been singled out as a target by the no-growthers. They are successful in what they try to obstruct largely because they receive help and comfort from elected and appointed officials. Working from both outside and inside government, the anti-business forces have made great inroads.

NEPA is bad enough, but that's just one law that is chilling our state's orderly growth. Add them all together, and you can see why we're in this predicament.

There is an answer. Get the laws changed and prevent other detrimental legislation from being enacted. This means we must elect representatives who care about the environment but who also understand the free enterprise system and will fight to

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

protect it. When you're in the voting booth this November 4, please be certain you vote for people who will work to change the laws that are crippling

our economy, taking away our freedoms and giving us little else in return.

by Paula Easley

NOTABLE QUOTES

"The instinct of government is to restrict people from occupying the land . . . the instinct of people is just the opposite."

**C. G. "Riz" Bigelow,
Alaska Miners Association**

"The growth of civilization is the history of the growth of energy."

**Dr. V. K. Rohatgi, head of the
Magnetohydrodynamics Project,
Bhabha Atomic Research Center,
Trombay, India.**

"The 'lessons' of the Three Mile Island nuclear plant problems are interpreted differently in Paris, London, Moscow and other seats of power abroad than they are in Washington. While the U.S. nuclear industry remains in a state of inertia, the rest of the world is pushing full steam ahead with the development of nuclear power."

"For all the self-righteousness of the 'no nukes' protests that have come into vogue, the hard facts are that nuclear power development is not extravagance, but necessity . . . Yes, there were lessons to be learned from Three Mile Island. But they're the ones being applied by the rest of the world, not by crusaders who would, quite literally, leave us jobless, powerless and in the dark."

**Editorial, Houston Chronicle
June 11, 1980**

From the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association Newsletter: "The chief defect of a democracy is that only the political party out of office knows how to run the government."

Dr. L. J. Peter

"Any individual in the United States with the inclination and ability to write his or her objections on a piece of paper can effectively bring a halt to offshore exploratory drilling, possibly for years."

"If EPA regulations remain unchanged and exploration and development of leases can be brought to a screeching halt on the flimsiest of excuses, the purpose of these lease sales will be defeated, reserves will not be discovered and developed, and our dependence on foreign oil will continue."

**W.D. Maer, senior attorney, Mobil
Oil Corp., in testimony before the House Ad Hoc
Committee on the Outer Continental Shelf**

"The real question . . . is not whether too much land owned by given entities (federal, state or local governments), but whether those entities are managing the land correctly."

"In the case of the federal government the answer is simply that the lands are NOT being managed correctly. I cannot think of another landowner in the world who would be permitted the cavalier attitude toward land management that our national government has developed. If a timber company or the railroad industry owned vast amounts of land and prohibited even a modicum of recreational use--as the federal government does--the public would be outraged. But because the federal government owns it, many people ASSUME that the land is being managed correctly. That simply is not the case."

**Interview with U. S. Senator
Ted Stevens in ENTERPRISE Magazine,
publication of the
National Association of Manufacturers**

"We must hope that America will never again overreact to the preservation movement and become intoxicated by its ideology, allowing politicians and others to use our country's potential, critical resources for their own self-interest."

**Robert G. Garwood,
speaking on the Alaska lands issue
in the Bulletin,
Northwest Mining Association**

"Perpetuation of poverty in this nation is NOT the result of unfair tax policy toward the poor. Rather, lack of jobs is a direct cause of poverty."

"There are decidedly many reasons to believe that (the encouragement of more capital formation) is the most desirable of the (tax) proposals now under consideration. Tax changes designed to encourage investment in economic growth are urgently needed. By increasing productive capacity--the ability to buy goods and services--the long-term impact of such tax changes would be anti-inflationary because more people at work would be producing higher levels of output."

**Murray L. Weidenbaum,
director, Center for the Study of
American Business, Washington University,
St. Louis.**

IN 1884, U. S. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS,
HENRY L. ELLSWORTH, URGED CONGRESS
TO SHUT DOWN THE U. S. PATENT OFFICE ON

THE GROUNDS THERE WASN'T MUCH LEFT
TO INVENT.

ALASKA'S AIR AND WATER POLLUTION

In an executive summary drafted for public comment by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, environmental problems and methods for achieving and maintaining a healthy environment are discussed.

The summary reports that AIR QUALITY is excellent in Alaska except for the urban areas of Anchorage and Fairbanks. Both cities are designated as non-attainment areas for carbon monoxide. The high carbon monoxide levels occur only in winter and are caused by automobile emissions.

The two cities have until 1987 to reduce pollution to safe levels but must commit to all necessary carbon monoxide measures by 1982. Various control measures are now being evaluated by these communities.

Elsewhere in Alaska there are isolated sources of air pollution affecting air quality only in the immediate vicinity of the facility -- sawmills, pulp-mills, energy producing facilities and fertilizer manufacturing plants. These sources emit nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and particulates. To protect air quality, emissions from these sources are limited and inspected regularly to insure compliance with state and federal clean air standards. Agency programs are outlined in the summary, along with the conclusion that "existing excellent air quality and visibility will remain substantially unchanged."

The Resource Development Council is confident that existing laws and regulations and industrial technology will assure clean air for generations to come. We wish those opposing development in general shared that optimism.

NORTHWEST POWER SHORTAGES PREDICTED

The Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee has issued an updated power forecast for the next decade. It is more pessimistic than its previous forecast about the sufficiency of electric generating facilities in the Northwest to meet demands in the 1980's. Possible power blackouts, brownouts and mandatory curtailments are predicted.

Alarming energy deficiencies are greatly increased because of recently announced delays in completion of the five Washington Public Power Supply System nuclear plants under construction.

During the 1970s the Northwest experienced two severe dry spells, and under similar conditions in the 1980s, chances are 50-50 that blackouts, brownouts and curtailments will occur. This gloomy forecast holds even if interruptible supplies of

The report deals also with WATER QUALITY. It states: "Rivers, lakes and marine environments in Alaska have been impacted by point and non-point pollution sources. No area, no matter how remote, has been immune to impacts on water quality. Nevertheless the majority of surface waters in Alaska now meet or exceed criteria established in the Alaska Water Quality Standards. The few instances of water quality standards violations are primarily due to *naturally occurring conditions*. High levels of turbidity and sediment are found in rivers from spring to early fall, when the rivers are affected by ice breakup and melting from snow pack and glaciers."

Isolated water quality problems in several areas of the state associated with point source discharges of pollutants are attributed to placer mining operations, seafood waste discharges and pulp mill waste.

Non-point sources of pollution in Alaska, while difficult to quantify, are attributed to construction and timber harvesting; in the Anchorage area urban stormwater runoff causes periodic water quality standard violations in several streams.

To handle water quality problems, five state and federal programs are in operation by ADEC and EPA. One, the 404 program dealing with *wetlands*, handles dredge and fill permitting activities. The following quotes reflect the agencies' attitudes toward development; "In the past year nearly 250 permits for activities in navigable water and wetlands have been issued and numerous unauthorized activities have LIKELY occurred. It is estimated that in the past year at least 1750 acres of navigable waters and wetlands HAVE BEEN LOST TO DEVELOPMENT."

power to aluminum plants and other industries are cut off, according to the Committee.

By 1990 the odds are at least one nationwide shortage will reach 100 percent, despite vigorous conservation programs and increased use of renewable resources.

Members of the Fusion Energy Foundation (a national organization dedicated to restoring the United States to first place in nuclear power and theoretical science) are convinced nuclear power is the only answer to this alarming predicament. You'll see their activists in airports spreading the gospel and soliciting memberships.

For membership and a subscription to Fusion Magazine, write Fusion Energy Foundation, 888 7th Avenue, Suite 2404, New York 10019.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - \$25