

Commission, together with the governments of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, are due considerable credit for accomplishment in the development of sewage works, so that there has never been a generalized problem of pollution of the Potomac River, originating on the Maryland side.

Question: I would like to ask Mr. Tawes (and others) whether they endorse federal assistance for pollution control under the Blatnick Bill... plus reaction to whatever Mr. Eisenhower has done in the meantime.

Answer: Maryland's experience with the construction grant features of the Public Law 660 program has been extremely favorable. We have no reservation at all that the construction grant program has materially stimulated communities to undertake the construction of needed sewage treatment works. The favorable effects of this program have, of course, been heightened by the initiative of the Maryland General Assembly in enacting a supplemental matching program to be paid out of State funds. Should the Congress see fit to increase the construction grant features of the P.L. 660 program as contemplated in the Blatnick Bill now before Congress, Maryland communities currently interested in securing such assistance will be ready to apply for these funds so that there will be little likelihood of their not being used and consequently reverted to the federal treasury. The latest information we have on the present Blatnick Bill before the Congress is that the Congress recessed the present session without enacting the bill, although it had been favorably reported by committees of both houses. It will, therefore, be carried over to the second session of this Congress. We hope at that time it will be acted upon favorably by the Congress and signed by the President.

Question: Also, how does Maryland react to the circumscribing of the responsibility of the Army Engineers survey responsibilities. What about Riverbend? What about a C&O Canal Park? And, a variety of other questions which are only indirectly related to pollution.

Answer: The issues involving upstream impoundment of the Potomac River include some major policy decisions. In our judgment, the capacity of the Potomac River to serve as a source of public water supply for the entire Washington metropolitan region must be substantially supplemented by some sort of impounding arrangement. The Corps of Engineers has now received funds which will permit it to complete the studies it began some time ago and which will be necessary to determine the exact nature of facilities to best meet water