

# How To Convince The Bureaucrats

Today and tonight in Pontiac, citizens are telling a state commission it hasn't gone far enough to protect people from the effects of air pollution.

They're attempting to convince the State Air Pollution Control Commission to adopt lower levels as acceptable than the commission itself proposes.

If they are successful, it will be due in large part to a workshop on effective citizen action held last Thursday in the City-County Building. "Speak to the point and only to the point, which is..." coached some experts who have confronted bureaucracy on complex technical matters before.

"YOU CAN and only you, as voters, can make the commissioners do more than they have... Industry will be paying people to be there testifying in its behalf. You can count on that. There's nobody to pay the public to testify. You have an opportunity to do something constructive," was the message hammered home by a loose committee.

An engineer, a chemist, a college professor, the president of Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC), a representative of the Michigan Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Society, a Cleveland housewife, a Kentucky municipal health official, a United Auto Workers (UAW) union representative—all drilled the point.

About 200 persons, most summoned by the committee because they represented concerned organizations of far larger number, heard the advice. One woman took notes to pass along to three groups:

including the Empowerment Society and the Detroit Metropolitan Federation of Women's Clubs.

THE POINT which the committee, headed by Prof. James Swan, U-M, instructed would be the subject of today's (Wednesday, Aug. 19) commission hearings is the ambient air quality standards for two types of pollutants: particulate matter and sulfur dioxide.

In layman's terms, ambient air is that air outside of buildings, the general air everyone breathes and which touches outdoor objects and vegetation. Particulate matter is microscopically small solids. Sulfur dioxide is a chemical name for a substance discharged into the air by the discharge of energy, such as when electricity flows through wires.

THE COMMISSION, acting in accordance with the 1967 Air Quality Standards Act, has proposed certain numeric measures of these ambient air pollutants which can be considered tolerable and goal to achieve by anti-pollution efforts.

The committee stressed that the levels proposed by the commission are higher than have been adopted elsewhere, and are higher than levels evidence has already proven to be harmful. They urged lower numerical standards be set which would be below known damaging levels and would include a safety margin.

The committee also urged the people demand the commission set a target time, such as three years, for reducing the pollutants to the standards.

Thus far the committee has not proposed a time goal.

BROWN, SPEAKING from the audience and identifying himself as MUCC president, urged the workshop attendees to "stand up and say clearly that you do not want quality to be degraded."

He explained that having fought with commissions on water quality standards, he knows novice complainants are often ignored unless they are this specific.

An elderly gentleman stood to proclaim that something ought to be done about pollution inside factories, too. Snow reminded that such subjects are outside the concern of today's hearings and would only distract from the citizen's points if they insist on bringing them up.

Leo Shaffer, identifying himself as president of the UAW retired workers of Wayne County, also spoke from the audience. He stated, "We have to stress our political power..."

A UAW man on the workshop committee offered transportation to anyone or any group that needed it to appear at the hearing. "Not all need to make statements. Just bring there will help convince the commission the people are concerned," he said.

THE AUDIENCE chairs in the common council auditorium were filled with obviously concerned people. Only three persons were noted smoking during the three-hour workshop, and two of the smokers were reporters attending on assignment. They, too, cursed the habit as the fervor of caution about pollutant effects rippled and waved in the room.

Blacks and whites, the young and the old, male and female, wearing suits and shirt-sleeves, sporting sideburns to the chin and none at all, paid rapt attention to the coaching.

To a question: Are the lower suggested standards realistically attainable? The Tuberculosis society representative said, "The technology is, but financing is another matter."

Snow said, "The quality of the air you breathe will be determined in the political arena. Public pressure at hearings has had an effect elsewhere, by convincing the commissions to set lower standards."



SEN. SANDER LEVIN, Democratic candidate for governor, addresses delegates to the 19th District-Oakland convention Saturday in the Board of County Commissioners auditorium in Pontiac. That's part of the Farmington delegation front and center. (Observer photo)

# Your Spare Tire Could Save A Life

The spare tire on your car may well be the most important piece of life-saving equipment that you take along on your vacation, says the Institute for Safer Living of the American Mutual Insurance Companies.

Few people seem to know still fewer believe, says the institute, that the mounted and inflated spare tire of a standard American car will float like a life ring and provide up to three adults with plenty of buoyant support. The big plus for the spare tire is that you will probably always have it with you; if your car is there the spare tire should be there too.

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# Goose Lake Dope Pushers Policed By State-Davids

Col. Fredrick Davids, director of Michigan State Police, has announced that he is releasing news media releases relative to the undisturbed trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs at Goose Lake, a pre-determined plan was put in motion and carried out by State Police narcotic officers during the festival.

As the result of this plan, individuals trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs have been arrested, Davids said. Others are being sought.

The many thousands of persons attending the festival made it difficult to carry out routine police procedures and, because of this, Davids said, it was necessary to utilize procedures which were initiated for this particular type of problem.

THE pre-planning, as well as investigative resources of State Police narcotics detectives, made possible the arrest of major narcotic and dangerous drug pushers at the festival.

Davids said there was never at any time a "handoff" policy in connection with the festival—only a change in police policy to allow for the deployment of the investigations and subsequent arrests of persons involved in a manner which was the safest for all concerned.

Davids said individuals arrested by State Police officers for trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs at the Goose Lake festival were charged with offenses that included the sale of heroin and marijuana and possession of marijuana.

In addition to activities at Goose Lake itself, arrests related to the Goose Lake festival have been made by State Police road patrols throughout southern Michigan. Many of these arrests also related to narcotic violations.

Davids indicated that arrests were still being made and that the major thrust was toward the apprehension of large scale pushers.

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# Creative Art Important To Mankind

Society is in as much danger from mind pollution as it is from the pollution of air and water, a spokesman declared at the opening of the University's 18th annual Art Conference and Michigan Invitational Exhibition.

Michael P. Church, director of cultural activities for the U-M Extension Service, said that "short-sighted school administrators who cut out art, music and other creative programs in the name of saving money are robbing our young people of the opportunity to have creative and meaningful lives."

Creative activity is more important than ever today, Church said, because modern society tends to rob people of their individuality.

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