

How Environment Movement Began

By TIM RICHARD

In 14th century England, a man was hanged for selling sulfurous coal that caused air pollution, and cities have had major environmental problems since the impact of the industrial revolution in the 18th century.

Why, then, has such a massive concern for the environment occurred among Americans in just the last two years?

Two reasons, says Granville H. Sewell, who last Wednesday was the first speaker in Schoolcraft College's lecture series.

One is a "legislative time bomb," the failure of certain environmental laws of the mid-1960s to work as expected. The other is a shift of values to "the environmental ethic."

DR. SEWELL is associate professor of environmental



GRANVILLE SEWELL

health at Columbia University in New York. With degrees in civil engineering, political science and economics, he has done foundation and U.S. government studies in the Middle East, Turkey, Nigeria and Panama.

"Politicians built things into

laws that couldn't be delivered," he said, citing water standards, solid waste disposal, land and water conservation acts.

Many of the acts required public hearings. Foundations, he said, trained interested persons to testify and put pressure on state officials to write high environmental standards.

States, required in many laws to set time schedules for cleanups, failed to meet their schedules. Hence the widespread dissatisfaction, said Sewell.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL movement, he went on, is related to the civil rights and women's liberation movement—it's concerned with "the equality of the right to live."

Sewell cited a Columbia

class which, in discussion, defined pollution recently as "disrupting the system." Pollution used to be identified as "something harmful to man," said Sewell, and the new definition, no longer egocentric, reflects a greater awareness of man as only one element in the environment.

"Don't expect the 'environmental ethic' to be universally accepted," he advised. Many persons who lived through the depression are fearful the environmental

movement will harm the economic system.

ASKED BY one person in the audience of about 40 to compare the levels of awareness in the U.S. to Europe, Sewell found "virtually no ecologists in France," and the few who claim to be don't understand ecosystems.

Swedes are considerably more advanced, even to the point of requiring environmental committees to approve new factory designs,

but Sewell found Swedes prone to accepting without question the findings of supposed authorities.

To another question, Sewell said that "increasing population ad infinitum is absolutely asinine." His suggestions: Decreased density of population decreased pressure on resources; more research in contraception; and an end to tax exemptions for children.



HARRY COGAN of 30979 Oak Valley Court, Farmington, has been appointed merchandising director, with responsibilities for advertising and purchasing, of Great Scott Supermarkets. A native Detroit who attended Wayne State University, Cogan has been in the food business 25 years and joined Great Scott in 1968 as merchandising assistant and advertising director.

Dateline Outdoors

By LEM MESEE
Outdoors Writer

Squirrel season opened Sept. 15, and hunters had good success in mild weather.

Few jack snipe hunters were in the fields, but they got good to excellent results with little competition.

Gunslingers limbering up for the pleasant and deer seasons later in fall are able again to use the Proud Lake Recreation Area ranges, which have reopened after being shut down for three weeks for modification.

Other ranges are at the Pontiac Lake and Bald Mountain recreation areas and are open from 9 to 6.

FISHING REPORTS were skimpy from conservation officers this week—a few bass and bluegills, fewer walleyes.

LAKE ERIE is already being called dead, and a University of Michigan scientist says phosphorus is starting to do the same to Lake Michigan.

Dr. Claire L. Schelske of the U-M's Great Lakes research division says that "continued addition of phosphorus is responsible for the seasonal depletion of silica and nitrogen." Plant growth is in direct proportion to phosphorus, he says, and research shows some taste and odor problems on beaches are resulting.

Further, the plant-life change often affects fish, causing a rise in "rough" fish such as carp and a decline in such sport species as lake trout.

On an optimistic note he adds: "I'm not convinced that you can't create a safe non-phosphate detergent."

STILL NO word from the Dept. of Natural Resources yet on when they're going to kill off the fish in the Proud Lake chain down to Milford. The fish-kill is scheduled for mid-September, with restocking to follow in fall and spring. A carp problem is prompting the DNR to start from scratch.

Until the kill, you can take all the fish you want, any size, any species, by any legal means.

PROTECTED wildlife should be respected by every outdoorsman, but some chaps don't seem to learn. The DNR district office reports one man was fined \$57 for selling raccoons and another \$32 for possessing a raccoon without a permit.

A permit can be obtained from the DNR for the legal purchase of wildlife from a licensed dealer.

Sgt. Pigeon Opening New AF Office

A Farmington native is running the new Air Force recruiting office at 29210 Orchard Lake Rd. in Farmington Township.

He is staff Sgt. Paul Pigeon, a 1964 graduate of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic High School, whose wife, the former Kathleen Hibbs, is a 1967 graduate of Farmington High School.

Pigeon is an eight-year veteran of the Air Force. He has been in Europe, Japan, Alaska, Greenland and Korea.

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