

REMARKS OF THE HONORABLE JOHN E. FOGARTY, MEMBER OF THE
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM RHODE ISLAND AT THE
SECOND PLENARY SESSION OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AIR
POLLUTION, DECEMBER 10, 1962
WASHINGTON, D.C.

It is a distinct pleasure to preside at this Second Plenary Session of the National Conference on Air Pollution.

Our subject this afternoon is STATESMANSHIP IN AIR POLLUTION CONTROL, a topic which I am sure we all regard as critical both to the proceedings of this Conference and to the very serious problem that has prompted the Surgeon General to convene this assembly. We are facing, as Dr. Terry so eloquently and forcefully reminded us this morning, a national problem of the utmost economic and health importance, one that touches the lives of all Americans. You are here to help chart a course toward significant progress in the control of air pollution, and I can think of no other social challenge facing our nation that demands more of its political, scientific, industrial leaders -- in fact, of people from every walk of life who are concerned with the present and future health and vitality of the nation.

It has been my good fortune to work closely with the public health movement for many years and to witness at first hand the devotion and skill with which its leaders, both within and outside of government, are striving to

safeguard the health and well being of all the people.

Let us not, by the fact of this three-day meeting, obscure the hard truth that air pollution is a hazard every day of every year; that it can, as we have seen in the last few days, become a crisis at any time and at any place when men congregate and defile the air.

If ever there was a need for the wise judgments of statesmen in the field of air pollution control, it is now -- today. That this nation has done so little to check the steady destruction of its air is a cruel and disastrous mistake. Let us resolve now that this mistake will not be continued.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have the honor to present the first speaker:

Dr. Barry Commoner is eminently qualified to discuss the subject of scientific statesmanship in which he long has been active. He now turns his attention specifically to scientific statesmanship in air pollution control..Dr. Commoner is Chairman of the Committee on Science in the Promotion of Human Welfare of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is Professor of Plant Physiology at Washington University of St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Commoner is Chairman of the Planning Council for Biology, and he is a member of

the editorial boards of a number of scholarly publications. Ladies and Gentlemen, I present -- Dr. Barry Commoner, who will discuss SCIENTIFIC STATESMANSHIP IN AIR POLLUTION CONTROL.

Our next speaker will discuss industrial statesmanship, and it is appropriate that he should be a leading industrialist as well as a man of learning. He is Dr. Jerry McAfee, Vice President of Gulf Oil Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Air Pollution Control Association.

Dr. McAfee is a native of Port Arthur, Texas. He obtained his doctorate in Chemical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1940, and while he was there he was a Du Pont Fellow. In addition to that, he is one of the United States' representatives on the Permanent Council of the World Petroleum Congresses...Ladies and Gentlemen, Dr. Jerry McAfee.

Now we come to the subject, political statesmanship, and to a man especially well-qualified to discuss it, Senator Harrison A. Williams, Jr., of New Jersey.

Senator Williams has been in the vanguard of the movement for urban development and for the vital "open spaces" that encourage attractive and orderly urban growth. The

Williams mass transit bill was passed by the Senate in 1960 and was re-introduced with broad bipartisan support in 1961. The "open spaces" bill also was introduced by Senator Williams. Both programs became law as part of the Housing Act of 1961. The Senator also took part in the successful fight for urban research funds.

As a member of the Senate, the next speaker has been on the following important committees -- Senate Banking and Currency...Senate Labor and Public Welfare... Select Committee on Small Business....Special Committee on Aging...the Democratic Steering Committee...and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committees. Senator Williams is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Migratory Labor of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee. He is a member of the Health and Railroad Retirement Subcommittees.

Senator Williams also has been active in sponsoring the Wilderness Bill, the Water Pollution Bill, a Civil Rights Bill, Aid to Education Bill, Area Development Act, the Department of Urban Affairs Bill.

With pride in his accomplishments for humanity, with pleasure in the person he is, I now have the honor to introduce
SENATOR HARRISON WILLIAMS.