INTERNATIONAL PRESS-CUTTING BUREAU
1 KNIGHTSBRIDGE GREEN, LONDON, S.W.1.

Extracts from

THE GLASGOW HERALD

Date 23 DEC 1970

POLLUTION INTO SEA INCREASING

The marine environment is becoming increasingly contaminated as the result of discharges from the land or the disposal of waste, it is stated in a section of the 1969 report of the Directorate of Fisheries Research, published to-day by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland.

Herring from the Firth of Clyde were found to contain appreciably more dieldrin and P.C.B. (polychlorinated biphenyl) residues than fish of the same species from the North-West or East Scotland.

The residue levels are regarded as of no significance in terms of human food, and probably would have no effect on the fish themselves, but the information is important in relation to the contamination of other species feeding on them.

Nineteen cases of fish mortalities reported last year to the Freshwater Fisheries Laboratory at Pitlochry were examined for cyanide poisoning, and in 14 of these poisoning was confirmed or strongly suspected. One was due to an industrial discharge, and the remainder to poachers.

PULP EFFLUENT

Of 14 other mortality cases six were due to various types of pesticides, one to liquid ammonia fertiliser, and three others to hot water, disinfectant, and an alkaline discharge respectively.

The "pollution group" of the Marine Laboratory, Aberdeen, made a special study last year to discover the dispersion pattern of effluent from the pulp mill at Corpach.

The surveys showed that Loch Eil is the most vulnerable part of the area, and the report comments:—"If the effluent total should increase in the future some further control of the method of discharge may be needed."

There were discussions on the general problems that would arise in the event of major industrial development in the Hunterston and Ardeer areas.

The report is published by the Stationery Office at 19s.

MONS 032315