QUESTION: In our community we have had some questions about asbestos cement water pipes. Is there any problem?

DR. DEMOPOULOS: I think in specific instances, you would have to sample water like that. You would have to look at it. I don't doubt that in occasional circumstances it is quite possible to carry carcinogenic loads of a chemical substance through the air and through the water, but I think they are unusual; where there are questions, I think you should take a look and see what the concentration is. The dose is all important, for sure. If it's a low dose, I wouldn't worry about it.

QUESTION: There are numerous problems that you have mentioned in your discussion relative to society's view of the cancer situation. Number one, you have the terror factor, the fact that people are more afraid of cancer than they are of heart disease. What, in your opinion, can communities, can we as concerned people, many of us, do to offset that view?

DR. DEMOPOULOS: Well, I think you have already done one thing as industry groups, and that is, I think, coordinated programs as AIHC has carried out on behalf of industry are very important. You must be unswerving in the pursuit of truth, it's good business.

I was shocked and amazed back in 1976 when I came here to direct the Cancer Institute in New Jersey. The press and the Department of Environmental Protection in Trenton were literally tearing industry apart. I always thought that you fellows were really hot stuff and would have answered back and I was surprised that industry was just laying back being beaten up. There was no response. I couldn't understand it. I think AIHC is one way to respond. I think that if you tap the angry potential that I assure you is there in large numbers in the academic university community, you will have a very firm ally provided you seek to serve truth and society. We have had no problems getting topnotch university scientists to stand up and be counted and speak the truth even at the risk of angering the National Cancer Institute from whence their grants come. Our peers judge our grant application; thank God the politicians and "greenies" do not.