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NEWS AND COMMENT

(Continued from page 666)

in overcoming their own. In fact, waste management is a field in which international cooperation will be essential. The countries now developing a nuclear power industry vary in technical competence, territorial size, geology, and possibilities for disposing of nuclear wastes within their own boundaries. Because of such differences, an internationally run program for disposal of wastes beneath the deep seabed is considered possibly to hold the answer for many countries. As contributors to the work of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's Nuclear Energy Agency, four of the major nuclear nations—the United States, the United Kingdon, France, and Japanhave begun a modest effort to establish a data base for the seabed disposal concept.

Should the United States, the nation that opened the nuclear era, fail over the next 10 to 15 years to set an example for safe and permanent disposal of radioactive wastes, its leaders will have themselves partly to blame if other nations do no better. And, as the U.S. experience of the past two decades has shown, in waste management to defer ultimate solutions is often to make them far more difficult and costly to achieve. Moreover, if the future growth of nuclear power does match the expectations of its advocates at home and abroad, the accumulation of wastes could become such as to make permanent disposal an illusory goal unless there is a steadfast commitment now to achieve it.

—Luther J. Carter

RECENT DEATHS

C. Dale Beers, 75; professor emeritus of zoology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; 23 September.

Henry H. Chisman, 67; professor emeritus of forestry, Pennsylvania State University; 30 September.

Frank A. Fatzinger, 51; professor of psychology, Western Michigan University; 17 September.

Raymond N. Keller, 67; professor emeritus of chemistry, University of Colorado; 21 September.

David F. Miller, 83; former chairman of zoology and entomology, Ohio State University; 23 September.

Walter C. Reusser, 84; professor emeritus of education, University of Wyoming; 22 September.