

SYMPOSIUM ON AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

INTRODUCTION

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The occasion of a national ASTM meeting in San Francisco afforded an opportunity for a discussion of the special air pollution problems of the Bay area together with their relationships to the much-discussed Los Angeles smog and other types of air pollution. The meteorology of the Pacific Coast was described, showing the patterns of wind movement and temperature inversions which are responsible for the accumulation of pollutants in the populated areas of California. It was shown that there is nothing unique meteorologically about

the Los Angeles Basin that would make its air pollution potential different from other parts of the California coast. Therefore the actual pollution of each area is determined by its special topography and the amount of urban and industrial pollutants emitted into the air.

From this viewpoint the San Francisco Bay Region was considered in detail with relation to the principal industrial areas, the cities and the Santa Clara valley.

Finally, analytical methods for aldehydes and fluorides in the atmosphere were discussed. The latter discussion was concerned with the rather difficult but very important separation of gaseous and particulate fluorides.

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