

## History of Waste (cont.)

ings and quarries. The cities created new job opportunities, causing an increase in urban population, which resulted in other problems. Waste, including human excrement, flowed untreated through open sewers into lakes and rivers. Mounds of garbage were left in the streets next to dead animals. All the people, all the factories and all the pollutants added up to a major health hazard. Efforts were made to better living conditions but this had little effect on the waste produced. Industry continued to progress into the twentieth century.

By the time Mr. Henry Ford initiated the first assembly line, industry was a fixture in North American and European countries. While waste removal became more organized, disposal methods remained the same, and little thought was given to the resulting consequences.



Despite the hardships of the first half of the 1900's, the years after the Second World War brought economic prosperity to the victorious nations and eventually to those defeated. In North America thousands of new homes were built for returning servicemen and women. Every home was to have a car. Massive highways were constructed. Television and radio brought the latest and greatest goods into people's living rooms. Science brought ever increasing advances in farming, medicine and the production of chemicals.