

**LIFE'S LIQUID**  
By Richard Sorokin

Water is so important to our life that it controls where we live, what we eat and how we survive.

Prehistoric man had to live near a supply of fresh water. Rivers, streams, lakes, ponds etc were a necessity for survival. In the beginning he went to the body of water and got what he needed. He then developed ways to carry water. First in a leaf and a nut shell or fruit skin. Leather buckets, then wooden buckets. Carrying water was and is daily work. Then man discovered water under the ground. He dug wells and dropped his bucket down. Towns grew up around these wells. A pump was invented to pull the water up and low and behold you had running water.

I can remember when I was in my teens; we stayed with a farmer around Harrisburg. They had a hand pump in the kitchen. This was a big improvement over going outside and lugging the water in. Today we take it for granted our supply of water. Turn the tap and there it is, magic.

We have spread our possible living areas far by pumping water where needed. We spend millions a year just to move water. Water rights have led to many a battle where lives were treaded for water. We can not do with out it. As long as there was plenty of water and few of us things were fine. Now there are many of us and our water supply is threatened. Our civilization can not expand with out water. We must not pollute our water supply or overburden it. We are at a point where we hold our own destiny in our hands. How we handle our water will determine future life on Earth.