

approval also. You have displayed foresight in realizing the importance of the Garrison diversion project to North Dakota and the Nation. South Dakota strongly supported that project.

The arguments that applied to the Garrison project apply equally to Oahe. We earnestly request your support.

In closing, I should like to quote a respected former colleague of ours, the Honorable Walter Rogers, of Texas, who said in a South Dakota address last year:

I know also that towns and villages have been uprooted and that thousands of Indians have had to be relocated. I know what these actions have meant to your State in terms of reduced income and reduced tax base. I would guess that up to this time the overall impact of the Missouri River Basin Project on your State has probably been negative.

In that connection, as reference is made to the Indians, as I sat in the hearing this morning, I felt I must bring to the attention of the committee, since every member of this distinguished committee is concerned with Indians in their State, that we are mindful, and I think it is well to remind ourselves again, that the best lands of the Indian reservations, as you know, Mr. Chairman, in your great State, were taken from the three affiliated tribes in North Dakota. That was true also in North and South Dakota as far as the Standing Rock Indian Reservation is concerned. That was true of the Cheyenne River Reservation, as you know, Senator McGovern and Senator Mundt, and true also in the Yankton and Crow Creek Reservations in South Dakota.

While this committee was most generous in its economic settlement for those lands taken, in my considered judgment it did not balance the social disorganization that resulted. These folks who were displaced from lands that they owned, now covered by water, merely moved back on less productive land. Our welfare roles and the concern of the tribal leaders—and you who are members of this great committee, as well as those in Congressman Berry's committee, the House counterpart of your committee, and in Senator Mundt's Appropriations Committee and my Appropriations Committee, where we are faced every year with helping the Indian people because of the distressed situation in which they find themselves—have been added to by the taking of these lands.

I think one point that needs to be made over and over again in this connection is that, as we increased the economic opportunities in South and North Dakota as the result of the development of these irrigation projects, these will provide opportunities, a real potential as agriculture is stabilized and opportunities for industry are increased.

We can help some of these young Indian men and women find jobs within their own State, rather than having to go out to California, New York, Chicago, or other places in the Nation.

I just wanted to add that I didn't include it in my prepared statement. Reference has not been made to it so far, though it may be referred to later on. The completion of the project is necessary for the benefit of these people.

I believe most South Dakotans would have to agree with Congressman Rogers' observation that I just quoted. We appreciate the development that has taken place, but the Federal Government's