

When the dams were built, and as compensation for the productive land that South Dakota was contributing, it was promised by the Federal Government that at least equivalent amounts of South Dakota land would be brought under irrigation at as early a date as possible.

The United States, operating under the unexcelled free enterprise system, has been one of the most blessed nations insofar as food production is concerned. Last year, however, we saw a period when granaries and cupboards were almost bare. This spring, we saw the threat of a severe drought developing in the "Breadbasket Area" of mid-America. It was just in the nick of time that the weatherman smiled on us and good fortune again brought us bountiful crops. Internationally, we are, however, facing a very severe food shortage problem. Each year, this problem steadily worsens. As past Director of Lions International, in my work with Care, Inc. in the distribution of food, I am personally cognizant of the fact that many thousands of people die daily, as reported by the World Health Organization, because of either the complete lack of food or insufficient quantities of it.

Time is of the essence in the authorization of this project. Our nation's number one weapon and asset in fighting the evil forces of the world has been our abundant supply of food. We should not think so much in terms of national surplus food production as we should think in terms of not producing adequately for the world's needs. Since there is a period involved, a lag phase so to speak, from the time a project is authorized to the time it can be brought to full production, a period being anywhere from 10-20 years, it is the recommendation of the business community of South Dakota that this project receive immediate authorization because it is not only in the best interests of South Dakota and our nation but of the entire world.

Senator McGOVERN. Mr. J. W. Grimms, executive officer, South Dakota Resources Commission, has been in the hearing room all day today. He told me earlier he would not submit a prepared statement at this time. He might have testimony to offer at a later date.

I might say that we will keep the hearing record open for any additional statements for a week or so. Those of you who want to file statements with the committee will have the opportunity to do so.

I think our final witness is Mr. Hans Jessen, of Tulare, S. Dak.

#### STATEMENT OF HANS JESSEN, TULARE, S. DAK.

Mr. JESSEN. Honorable Senator, and I will also address you as Mr. Chairman.

I am kind of disappointed in Al Schock. Al Schock is sort of a humorist and I am sure everybody acquainted with him knows that. I thought he probably would inject a little humor into this after all this serious testimony.

I don't know whether I am capable of it or not. Being that Al didn't, I am going to try to. The only thing I am sorry of is that our honorable Senators from North Dakota, our neighboring State, are not here. I was hoping that Senator Burdick would be here. Honestly, I am disappointed that he is not, because I have gotten acquainted with him. I want to compare the two States.

This is off the cuff, by the way. This is not part of my statement.

I want to compare the two States. North Dakota and South Dakota with the exception of the people living in the two States, are referred to as the Dakotas. But when you refer to it as the Dakotas and you are from South Dakota, you say, "No, I am from North Dakota." If you are from North Dakota, you say, "North Dakota."

However, geographically, the two States are split almost in the middle. As far as the highways are concerned, you almost have to go east and west to get through one or the other. On north and south