

to meditate today is of great importance. I have gained some impressions over the years and in my lifetime, I think we have witnessed perhaps at least three situations and developments that might be referred to as revelations.

First, I think perhaps we would all agree that the travel by air has transpired in our lifetime to the extent that we are now neighbors to any people in any part of the globe so far as distance and time is concerned.

Certainly, at the present time we are developing atomic energy to the extent that it is affecting everybody's life and it is probably an understatement to say this is a revelation to all of us.

So far as farm life itself is concerned, in my opinion, I think the REA Act of 1935 was probably the greatest revelation so far as the man on the farm is concerned.

Probably the greatest single step of progress that we have witnessed, and now I look anxiously and not with worry, because I have confidence in the Members of the U.S. Congress and especially the committee that is assembled here today—by the way, it is not what I have been, as I would like to say, a host, to Senator Moss as he appeared here some few years back when I was Governor of the State with his distinguished guests from Oklahoma, Robert Kerr, and our late Senator Case from South Dakota.

I have great confidence for these people to work with us and bring us to a successful status as far as the matter before us at the present time is concerned.

The multipurposes that are served by the impalement of the water by the four main stem dams, and by the way, Senator Burdick, I am sure if any information is correct, that South Dakota gave almost the same total of acres, and that is a half million acres, in each case. At least this is what we used to say that South Dakota for the main stem dams, gave 500 and—

Senator Burdick. I am very familiar with the facts in North Dakota, 560,000 acres.

Mr. HERSETH. I posed the question on purpose because I think we are always interested in having that clarified.

Senator McGOVERN. Maybe we contributed a little higher quality.

Mr. HERSETH. This, Senator McGOVERN, and I think we have a little room for levity, was conceded by Governor Davis to me at one time through a heated discussion through the press.

I would also make the observation that there are no people on the face of the earth who have water to waste and since this is controversy and has been controversy between the people who favor navigation and irrigation and hydroelectric and flood control and recreation, I think it is important that I make a statement at this time that the nearer this good fresh water that we have impounded in South Dakota that emanates in North Dakota and Montana, the nearer this water gets to the Gulf of Mexico, the nearer it comes to being wasted as far as good services to mankind is concerned and with that, gentlemen, I would like to proceed with the next part of my testimony today.

I thank you very much and I will file this statement for inclusion in the proper place.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you so much for your statement. We especially appreciate that statement from our former Governor, a man