

breeding cattle I can carry through the winter, or how many cattle can be fattened for market each year.

The word that best describes why I am in favor of irrigation is "stability"—the doing away with extreme yield fluctuations due to a lack of moisture. Stability on the farms will mean stability in our entire area economy.

An important byproduct of the Oahe project will be through the improving of the James River Channel. That is, the deepening, widening, straightening, and shortening of the river from 119 miles to 54 miles. This will largely end the flooding almost annually of 20,000 acres of rich bottom lands resulting in an estimated loss of \$1,500,000 per year to farmers and businesses in Brown and Spink Counties.

The great and worthy food for peace program in 1967 is a mere infant compared with the giant it will be in the year 2000, only 33 short years away. The Oahe project will probably be only half completed by that time, and the cry for food then will be deafening unless Congress approves the great Oahe project and many others like it in the very near years to come.

In the name of humanity, I urge the authorization of this important project so it may contribute to the welfare of future generations.

Senator Moss. That was a very elegant and excellent statement.

How often do you irrigate on this experimental farm during the year? How much do you have to irrigate?

Mr. GULLIKSON. Last year was my first experience with irrigation and we had above normal rainfall for the growing season. I irrigated two times on part of the field and three times on another part of the field.

Senator Moss. Which points up the fact that it is really just at critical times that you need this irrigation water, but those times are critical to the end result of the yield on the land.

Mr. GULLIKSON. That is absolutely right.

Senator McGOVERN. I think Mr. Gullikson made a good point here in reference to our future food demands. One of the arguments we used to run into against reclamation projects was that it was inconsistent to be putting funds in the development of irrigation projects if at the same time we were piling up agricultural surpluses. That never really was a very good argument. There was an answer to it 10 years ago, but it's not a good argument today at a time when the surpluses are gone and all the demands are going to be made on this country for food from places all over the world where they are growing food deficits. I think we are going to have to make the best possible use of our land and water to meet the challenge ahead.

Thank you very much for your statement.

Mr. GULLIKSON. Thank you, gentlemen.

Senator McGOVERN. I have been told that there were three farmers here from Brown County who must leave before lunch. Mr. Harold Smith, Mr. Alfred Locken and Mr. James Sperry. If they would like to come forward, now, we would be glad to hear from them at this time so they can get away.

I know some people are out planting today, out doing some work in the fields, and we would be happy to have those statements and let you get away as soon as possible.

This is Mr. James Sperry who is testifying now.