

listening to a year which South Dakota saw and I won't say "over," but I will say "above" average supply of moisture and it also should be pointed out to the committee that this is generally unusual for the State of South Dakota rather than the farmers of this area witnessing the fact of an overage supply of moisture. We see the under-average supply of moisture more often than we do that he testified to.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you.

Is Mr. Locken here?

STATEMENT BY ALFRED LOCKEN, FARMER, ABERDEEN, S. DAK.

Mr. LOCKEN. My name is Alfred Locken. I am a farmer, and I live 12 miles southeast of Aberdeen. I was told sometime if I had anything to say on behalf of irrigation, I would not have to go to Washington to say it, I could come down to Redfield. I thought of two reasons why I would rather go to Washington. One is, probably the testimony down here today would be a little bit like something of the sermons we hear in church on Sunday. A lot of times some of the people aren't there that should be hearing it. Another reason is, if I should get off the track here today and get kicked out, I doubt if any of my neighbors would let me back in here; but it seems, or sort of seems, like if I get kicked out of Washington, I might get right back in again. Anyhow, I am down here just to pass a few of the things that my neighbors talked about at different times that pertains to irrigation.

Senator McGOVERN. I might say, that is not the only advantage that Redfield has over Washington.

Mr. LOCKEN. We find that we have some problems to solve which can be solved to a large degree by bringing irrigation into our area. There are some trends existing which should be reversed, and we think this could be brought about by making the proposed Oahe irrigation project a reality.

My farm is quite typical of others in the area so I will explain one of the trends that exist and how it affects my farm. I would like to tell it this way.

I built a silo on my farm in 1951. When I made the deal for the silo, the silo company representative asked me if I wanted my name put on the silo, and if so it should be put on at the factory. I decided I would get a certain amount of satisfaction out of seeing my name on the silo, so I said "Yes" I wanted my name on the silo.

He then asked me just what I wanted put on the silo. I had one son and while he was but a little tyke at the time I thought he would soon be helping me on my farm, and he, too, might get a certain amount of satisfaction in seeing his name on the silo. I decided to have the words, "Alfred Locken and Son" put on the silo.

Future events, blessed and otherwise, soon caused me to realize that I should have the letter "S" put on the end of the word "Son," because eventually I had three sons.

I seriously considered getting the letter "S" put on, but before I got it done a few things started to happen in the community. Some of my neighbors sold out and I soon realized that my farm was not large enough for more than one son and myself anyhow.