

too fast, and, of course, there are some who are against any form of organization.

The point I would like to bring out here is that I think when irrigation comes to this area, there will be a lot more than the present 190,000 acres to irrigate.

This concludes my testimony, thank you.

Senator McGovern. We appreciated that excellent statement.

I think there are a good many qualities that a person has to have to be a successful farmer, but one of them is a sense of humor, and we are glad to see that demonstrated here by this last witness, Mr. Locken.

We have with us Mayor Lowell Schmidt. We are happy to have him present for this hearing and I think we will call him to the witness stand at this time.

I might tell you, while Mayor Schmidt is making his way to the front of the room, that we also have the basement of this building filled with people who are interested in our hearing. I understand the proceedings are being piped downstairs by means of the amplifying system. That is further indication of the interest in the subject that we are discussing.

Mayor Schmidt, we are happy to have you before the committee.

**STATEMENT BY LOWELL SCHMIDT, MAYOR, CITY OF
HURON, S. DAK.**

Mr. Schmidt. Thank you Senator McGovern and members of the committee.

My name is Lowell Schmidt. I am the mayor of Huron, S. Dak., and have served in that capacity since May 3, 1965. This statement is made on behalf of the more than 15,000 residents of the city of Huron, at the request of and with the knowledge and acquiescence of the city commission of Huron as evidenced by a resolution of that body.

Huron is located on the west bank of the James River about 15 miles south of the James diversion dam. Located, as we are, in an area of erratic rainfall, meager precipitation, and consequent erratic stream-flow, we are acutely aware of the absolute need of water. We recognize its need for irrigation and industry and in particularly dry seasons, the need for potable water for even basic living. As a consequence, residents of Huron have been among the very first to encourage all forms of water search in this area. We strongly and ardently endorse the Oahe plan as the apparent feasible, large volume producer of sufficient water for this area.

My remarks on behalf of our city, due to limitation of time, will be confined to that portion of the Oahe plant—the James diversion dam and reservoir.

Huron, throughout its history, has been plagued with an inadequate municipal water supply. Studies indicated that proper use of natural James River flow offered the best possibility for relieving the water shortage.

The James diversion dam was constructed appropriate for a stage of Oahe, to provide the city of Huron with a supplemental municipal and industrial water supply. The reservoir was designed as sufficient to