

rectors of the South Dakota Wildlife Federation unanimously endorsed the following resolution:

"Whereas, The Board of Directors of the South Dakota Wildlife Federation at a meeting in Huron February 19, 1967, received additional information which indicated that in the formation, planning and request for federal authorization of the Oahe Irrigation Unit that consideration is being given to all beneficial uses of water; and

"Whereas, we fully realize the future economic impact on the general public welfare by authorization of the Oahe Irrigation Unit and

"Whereas, we understand and accent our responsibility in the planning, formation and support of the enhancement aspects of beneficial uses of water;

"Now, therefore be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the South Dakota Wildlife Federation that we support the authorization of the Oahe Irrigation Unit."

Senator McGovern. Is Mr. Lester Dennis from Spink County here, and also Mr. Otis Hawkins? We will hear him after Mr. Dennis completes his statement.

STATEMENT OF LESTER DENNIS, MELLETTE, S. DAK.

Mr. DENNIS. Honorable members of the Senate subcommittee, I am Lester Dennis of Mellette, S. Dak. I farm in the northern part of Spink County, in the proposed irrigation district. I am in favor of irrigation because it would eliminate one of the problems in farming—the shortage of moisture. This, to me, is a main reason for crop failure in that the moisture doesn't come at the right time or in the proper quantity.

We have a State college in South Dakota that does much to promote advancements in farming. Research is carried on to develop new and better plants, better methods of fertilization applications, and livestock types have been improved.

We have a soil and water conservation service that helps the farmer to prepare his land wisely.

We have new insecticides to kill pests and also weed control products.

We have local banks, PCA, and FHA to help us finance our needs. They can provide many types of insurance. Hail insurance is one example. We also have good soil but we don't have the most important insurance of all—moisture.

Senator McGovern. Thank you for your statement, Mr. Dennis.

Now, will Mr. Hawkins, also of Spink County, come forward.

Mr. Hawkins is not here. If he has a statement, we will be glad to see that it is filed later on.

Mr. Alvin Rehfeld is the chairman of the West Brown County Irrigation District. We will be happy to hear from Mr. Rehfeld at this time.

STATEMENT OF ALVIN REHFELD, CHAIRMAN, WEST BROWN IRRIGATION DISTRICT, WARNER, S. DAK.

Mr. REHFELD. Senator McGovern, Senator Burdick, I am sure glad to have this opportunity to meet with you gentlemen.

I noticed in the morning remarks that our former Governor, Ralph Herseth, and Fred Holscher, stated a time or two about the favorable votes we had on our different projects here, and I sure want to urge, and have you fellows notice, how favorable they have been.