

It certainly shows a lot of enthusiasm among us up in Brown County.

As you gentlemen motored down here this morning from Aberdeen to Redfield, you traveled through the old Lake Dakota bed and I am sure you noticed all the good, rich, level, fertile land we have on each side of the road and we are proud of this locality.

I'd like to state that for many years I have toiled and tilled the soil and planted my seed and then about all we have to do is get down on our knees and pray we'll get some more rainfall to make it produce and I think now with the abundance of water we have in our backyard, that one of these dreams is coming true.

I would say that perhaps in my last 30 years of farming, there has not been one year that some time or another during the growing season I wouldn't have been glad to open up a valve and turn water loose on my farm. I have been a livestock buyer for shipping associations, and an International Harvester businessman, and sold farm machinery and managed and operated a farm, and so I have been acquainted with all aspects of life on small town business main streets and farming and livestock enterprises. We are coming much more, in South Dakota, livestock minded. We have to grow the feed for this livestock and we know very well that in order to grow these feeds, we must have the good old water.

I think we have soil equal to any spot in the Nation. I don't know where it would be any better. At the present time I would say our land up in Brown County is selling for \$150 to \$160 an acre and there is only one thing lacking, and that's water. I think then we could have our \$400 and \$600 land just like they have in Iowa and Illinois. And, of course, something like this is what's going to lead up to enthusiasm for our young boys and girls to stay on our farms in South Dakota.

At the present time they can't see a future with the way things are going. But, with water being talked up, I am sure we are going to have a change of mind of our younger generation. And certainly we know what it is going to do for South Dakota. And business on main streets in our community, our small banks and stores and recreational parlors, and everything will be much better off if we get this moisture.

You have heard many farmers, and I like your statement, Senator Burdick, in regard to all of us working together. Some of us benefit from flood control, and some from recreation. Some of us are interested in the pollution, and others in irrigation. I have a little interest in each one of them. I like to be able to go out and catch a big lunker out at the Missouri Basin and shoot a wild goose once in awhile. And, I'm certainly for irrigation, to be able to produce feed for our country.

I am sure that you gentlemen in your situation understand what it will do for prosperity of South Dakota.

It has been great to say these few words to you.

I have testimony that I will file, to be on record, and thanks a lot for taking your time to come out here and hear us.

Senator McGOVERN. Thank you, Mr. Rehfeld. Your prepared statement will be included in the record.

(The statement referred to follows:)