

tion and resource development, responsible for all federal planning and action in the field, might still work if it could be achieved by waving a magic wand. It simply cannot be achieved, however, without a bloody, bone-shattering fight, which would leave the landscape so scarred that the conservation cause would be lots in the critical years immediately ahead.

I do not know if our distinguished colleague read this book.

Senator BAKER. I have not.

Senator RIBICOFF. Would you want to comment on Frank Smith's statement?

Senator Moss. Well, first of all, let me say that I have no illusions that there will not be a great deal of resistance to rearranging the functions of natural resources into a department. The history of this proposal would indicate it goes clear back to Harold Ickes. It was proposed by him, and, of course, the Hoover Commission proposed it.

It has come up various times and never been accomplished because of certain departments or agencies which functions would be taken into the department resisting it, thinking they could function better

CONFUSION IS LIABILITY OF COMPETING AGENCIES

Senator Moss. Well, although I do not reject the idea that there is always some element of advantage perhaps in competition, I think it adds up really to more confusion than competition.

We are talking here about the sovereign, managing, planning for the management of all the resources of the country. And to have competing agencies with different regulations simply adds to the confusion, I think, of the consumer on the other side.

Now, it was mentioned in the quote you read that BLM and the Forest Service sell timber in a different manner under different

Senator RIBICOFF. Senator Harris?

Senator HARRIS. I do not have any questions, Mr. Chairman.

Senator RIBICOFF. Senator Hansen?

Senator HANSEN. I have no questions.

Senator RIBICOFF. Senator Baker?

Senator BAKER. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask just one or two additional questions, and I am mindful of the fact that Senator Kennedy is anxious to testify, and I do not want to unduly prolong the hearings.

But let me make a point or two at the outset, Senator Moss.

I have no desire to be antagonistic or in opposition to this proposal.

Senator Moss. I understand.