

Governor HATHAWAY. Senator, there has been considerable discussion, of course, and a lot of it before my time. I am not familiar with the details of the repurchase provision. There are productive lands there. A portion of the project is now owned by the Bureau of Reclamation, and we feel that by making larger units for the people that are on the first and second divisions who have had no trouble—they have always paid their commitments to the United States, and it is a healthy farm economy—and by including all under one project that the entire matter can be healthier.

Senator ANDERSON. Would there be any writeoff of the present indebtedness?

Governor HATHAWAY. No; they expect to fully pay the balance of the construction charges on the first and second divisions.

Senator ANDERSON. Is the Shoshone project included in that; that is, the part of the reservation lands?

Governor HATHAWAY. I am not familiar with that. Perhaps, some of the other witnesses will be.

Senator ANDERSON. Do you know of any opposition to this?

Governor HATHAWAY. I know of no opposition to it.

Senator ANDERSON. Are there grazing lands within the area?

Governor HATHAWAY. Mr. Peck could answer that.

Mr. PECK. I will answer that. There are grazing lands adjacent to this, in the third division, which have never been brought into irrigation. That is part of the overall picture. These were purchased from the Shoshone-Arapaho Tribes, and they would like to recover them if they could. This was a purchase from the tribe at the time that the reclamation district was withdrawn from the reservation, which you may know entirely surrounds that whole area. It was a withdrawal from the Indians, and the like.

Senator HANSEN. If I might interpose a word?

Senator ANDERSON. Very well. I want to put this telegram in the record.

Senator HANSEN. You have anticipated precisely what I was going to do. I, too, have a copy of the wire from the Shoshone and Arapaho Tribes, and I had intended, as you have already done, that it be incorporated into the record.

Senator ANDERSON. We will put it in the record at this point.

(The telegram referred to follows:)

FORT WASHAKIE, WYO.

HON. CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
Chairman, Interior Subcommittee on Water and Resources, U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.:

The Shoshone and Arapahoe Tribes oppose S. 670 to reauthorize the Riverton extension unit unless provision is made to require the Bureau of Reclamation to honor its long-established policy and return or sell back to the tribes 63,000 acres of former tribal grazing land not needed for reclamation purposes. The tribes sold 161,520 acres of tribal land to the United States for reclamation purposes. Under the act of August 15, 1953, 67 Stat. 592, for \$6.25 per acre. Some 63,000 acres of this land never have been used for reclamation purposes. The 63,000 acres are on the reservation and are contiguous to 2 million acres of tribal land now administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The minerals are in the tribes. Up to last year the 63,000 acres was in exclusive Indian use under permits for substantial fees paid to the Bureau of Reclamation. Last year the Bureau of Reclamation barred Indian use and turned the land over to the Midvale Irrigation District for a nominal fee, if any. The Bureau policy