

Mr. Roy Reid, District Manager of the Midvale Irrigation District, is exemplification of an agricultural manager quite on a par with the best that we have in industrial management.

Mr. Don White, attorney for the District, exemplifies the complexities of modern agriculture. A project of the scope of the Riverton Project would be quite lost without the necessary legal talents of a man like Mr. White.

Mr. Gideon W. Davidson, whose father homesteaded in the area in 1906, has had a lifetime of successful experience on the Riverton Project.

Mr. Oscar K. Barnes, of the Agricultural Extension Service, manifests the fascinating complexities of modern agriculture, as well as the partnership that continues to expand between the University and the farming community.

What these men so amply demonstrate is the working out of a concept of American life which has been so vital to us since our beginnings many years ago. The Jeffersonian concept that a democratic society must be peopled with self-sustaining and self-determining citizens is a concept just as viable in 1967 as it was in 1767. Indeed, a valid case can be made that such a concept is even more important today. It is true that the acceptance of the role of small farmers in American life has been subject to criticism by some historians and others throughout our national life. However, there is no gainsaying the necessity for self-sustaining and self-determining citizens in a democracy.

Secretary of Agriculture Freeman has pointed out again and again that our concern with the problem of increasingly crowded urban areas cannot be dealt with without giving equal attention to the tragic drift away from the farm back toward the city. In my own case, I have long since spoken and promoted the principle of doing all that we can, and parenthetically, I don't think that we have done all that we can, to aid and increase the appeal of farm life.

It is my conviction that those who leave the farm do not do so because the city has some magic lure, but that they leave regretfully, knowing that the abandonment of the farm is also the abandonment of an idea—a worthwhile idea. S. 670 asks that the Federal Government once again do all that it can to shore up not only the canals and drainage system in the Midvale District, but to shore up a crucial value.

The Riverton Project, with the aid of passage of S. 670, will reaffirm our commitment to small farmers as the vital agent of a self-sustaining, self-determining citizenry.

These successful Riverton Project farmers are living testimony to the worth of the Jeffersonian principle, as well as the new breed of farmer so necessary to our national life. No longer can the American farmer view his task as a simple sowing of seed and awaiting nature's bounty. These men have put into practice what good farmers in America have always known. That is, we cannot torture our land with a single crop, but instead we must diversify the crops which feed our people. Such diversification takes immense skill. The farmer today is a student of surprising proportion. Not only is he a seed expert, but a soil expert, water expert, financial expert and a marketing expert. This is not to mention the knowledge demands made upon the farmer by complicated machinery, power sources, and a capricious climate.

S. 670 recognizes the complexities of modern farming and especially the need for diversification, which is why, for example, the farmers on the Riverton Project are as concerned with fish and wildlife development as they are with purely agricultural matters.

The resources of the Midvale Irrigation District are many. The District includes 45,000 acres of good, irrigable lands which have produced \$58,900,000 in crop value.

There are three hundred experienced farm operators of demonstrated managerial ability and resources on the Project.

The District has established community and institutional services, including roads, schools, electric and telephone systems, and business and professional services.

The District faces the following needs:

A drainage construction program to protect farm lands from seepage.

A rehabilitation and betterment program for replacement of project system structures long past a normal life expectancy.

Additional irrigable lands to permit enlargement of small farms into economic family-size units.

The restoration of Third Division lands to the tax roles of local governmental units.