

We pumped the vital water for the cows by hand until we finally received electricity in 1939. In 40-degree-below weather, my brother and I would alternate 100 pumps each on the Dempster handle while the other stood inside the window of the kitchen keeping warm. It took an hour of pumping to water the herd. My father wired and plumbed our home himself. I was a senior in high school before I knew the comforts of inside plumbing.

I have picked potato bugs, and sprayed Paris green, and I remember storing the bumper potato crop in the basement of our house, because the potato cellar was full. We carried them downstairs in bushel baskets. And we shoveled up the rotten stinking, sprouting mess in the spring, and took them out and tried to feed them to the cows, because we had never been able to sell them. I do not know what kind of milk that produced.

I have thinned beets on my knees, hoed weeds until my back was breaking, topped beets, and shoveled beets into the truck, and seen the old Chevy mired down in the field in a foot of mud with a broken axle.

My family, six children, and my mother and father, grew up unified and God fearing in the finest tradition of rural America. I only regret that my father is not alive today to see the dairy operation which he started with one cow—now the largest fluid milk processing plant in Wyoming. It is in a new half million dollar plant, supplying a refrigerated tank truck a day of pure, grade A milk to the Denver milk market, and providing a fine livelihood to many dairy producers, most of them living on the Midvale irrigation project.

Perhaps my personal reference illustrates two things: First, the agriculture of the Riverton project has grown, and progressed, and changed. The Morning Star Dairy is a corporation, our producers own our modern plant, and we lease it from them. They share in our profits which they help earn through the sweat of their brows. Second, agriculture like every part of the American economy is touched by technological change. The agricultural practices of my father's day no longer apply, but the hard work of the farmers of old, the homesteaders, is paying off because of technology—agribusiness, if you will.

This is really what S. 670 is all about. Technological change.

These men of Midvale have proved they can farm at a profit. But like a factory built in 1926, more than 40 years ago, Midvale needs refurbishing. And like industry which must turn to credit to modernize, Midvale asks for a loan to modernize, to change, the opportunity to apply the new technological skills of agriculture, so long denied them.

All of the problems of America are not centered in the Riverton project, although you would have thought so a few years back. The major problems of this Nation belong to the cities with air and water pollution, urban decay, and civil strife tearing at the very heart of our Nation.

The problem is clear, and the trends are apparent. We must call a halt to the accelerating decline in rural population. We need to consider ways and means to achieve a better urban-rural balance of population.

We have an opportunity before us in S. 670 to do our part in solving this problem. These dollars, well spent to assist the Midvale project, are