

stalled that permit the farming on a sustained basis of 8,913 acres; 2,918 acres are the same kind of land, but we do not have the drains in yet.

Senator ANDERSON. What is going to happen to these 8,000 acres? Will the 8,000 be disposed of in the same way that you dispose of other lands?

Mr. DOMINY. Under this legislation, we would be authorized to give priority to the Midvale farmers and sell it at the appraised value of the land.

Senator ANDERSON. Why?

Mr. DOMINY. Because they are in need of expansion of their units.

Senator ANDERSON. Well, I know, but other areas are involved which are in need. There is a certain procedure that the Bureau uses in handling this. These are 8,000 acres in this area. There may be 8,000 acres in Arizona, and would they be open to Colorado growers?

Mr. DOMINY. It would be in the first instance under normal reclamation land settlement procedures.

We have gone through that step once. We did open it up under regular public land homestead procedures. We ran into this problem. And now we feel that some special consideration is justified.

Senator ANDERSON. Are you doing the same thing that you are requesting here for other American citizens? That is, if you have an irrigation project, they buy it back with the right to use it?

Mr. DOMINY. No, sir.

Senator ANDERSON. I mean, those who originally had it?

Mr. DOMINY. The ones—

Senator ANDERSON. They must give up?

Mr. DOMINY. The ones that were bought off would have no rights whatever.

Senator ANDERSON. You just finished saying that they would.

Mr. DOMINY. The Midvale farmer was not bought out. Let us go to the map, please. The Midvale division is this lower half of that area covered on the map. None of those lands were acquired. The lands that were acquired were the lands above the red border. And none of the farmers that sold would be entitled now to buy the land back. It would go to the landowners of the Midvale project that are having trouble with inadequate-sized units. We homesteaded it in very small units, many of 80 acres in size. And they have been trying to revamp that project and get it on its feet. These are the farmers who have been leasing these third division lands after we bought out the original settlers. And now, we would give preference to the Midvale farmer who has demonstrated his ability to farm in this area, and who can use this land to advantage to augment his economic unit.

Senator ANDERSON. The third division was sold back to the Government?

Mr. DOMINY. That is correct.

Senator ANDERSON. So that the first and second divisions have this preference; but how about the original ones in the third division?

Mr. DOMINY. The third division settler who sold out has no rights whatever. We would not permit a unit to go back to a man who has already been bought off.

Senator ANDERSON. My question was in regard to divisions one and two.