

That is Senator Simpson. You were here.

Mr. DOMINY. Yes, indeed, I was.

Senator ANDERSON. He was a very fine man.

Mr. DOMINY. I have known him for years.

Senator ANDERSON. Why then did he give this testimony?

Mr. DOMINY. He did not give any judgment that he did not believe.

Senator ANDERSON. He always tested things pretty carefully. One reason is that he always tried to find answers. Do you think that he was mistaken in this notion?

Mr. DOMINY. I think that with regard to a fairly sizable amount of the lands that were homesteaded on the third division the statements that you have read attributable to Senator Simpson are accurate.

Senator ANDERSON. You are suggesting now that the Midvale farmers get their extra acreages and he says that those were no good. Who is right?

Mr. DOMINY. He was right in part.

Senator ANDERSON. In quite a little part.

Mr. DOMINY. Part of the land is considered worthless for irrigated purposes.

Senator ANDERSON. You are now irrigating it—that is what you are now urging?

Mr. DOMINY. No. We homesteaded almost 25,000 acres, Senator. And we are only trying to salvage 8,913 acres. We admit that we did not classify those lands sufficiently in advance. We did run into some drainage problems because of salt and magnesium sulphates and some things that we have not encountered anywhere else in the West. And we spent considerable money on some of it trying to drain it. We admit that we cannot. Therefore we do agree with Senator Simpson's conclusion with respect to about two-thirds of the lands involved, but we disagree to the extent of the 8,913 acres, because we have demonstrated that they can be farmed.

Senator ANDERSON. Did you indicate what the situation was at that time?

Mr. DOMINY. Yes, sir. I had these two—

Senator ANDERSON. In testimony before what committee? I was a member of the committee.

Mr. DOMINY. There were many discussions. At the time that this thing got to the buy-out decision stage, emotion had taken over, and reason was no longer very popular.

Senator ANDERSON. You mean by Senator Simpson?

Mr. DOMINY. I am talking about general attitudes, not specific statements like you are reading here. You would not consider that a man who plowed up the land and took off the sagebrush and established a field of alfalfa and never touched it for 10 years thereafter that he was really making much of an effort to prove whether that farm was irrigable or not. One of the directors who was a big wheel in getting this thing passed to buy out at that time was such a farmer. One of the other directors spent most of his time as a