

carpenter and what farming was done on his part was done by his wife and kids. And this land did not have a chance under this kind of an operation. And one of the things that happened early in the days when the alfalfa seed was real high priced the first year or two, these guys just thought that they had the moon by the tail. All they had to do was to irrigate some alfalfa, take a hay crop off and let the second crop come up and get a combine in there and get 40 to 50 cents per pound right at the farm uncleaned. They thought that they had the moon by the tail. Well, that did not last very long. That is, when it came down to really going into irrigation as an enterprise with proper rotation, with livestock and the like, being out there in the wintertime and feeding some cattle, to be moved into town, and let the alfalfa go, and they were not quite ready for that. This is what happened. We will admit that about one-half of those lands should not have been included. I am not going to take personal responsibility for that because it was done before I became chief of the irrigation division, but I know that there was not good land classification in advance.

It was part of the wartime energy to create farming units to returned veterans, and they went in there pretty fast and did not take a good look at some of these lands.

Give us credit, however, we stopped at Muddy Ridge and Cottonwood Bench which were not opened to homestead.

Senator ANDERSON. But you are going to put that back in, the 8,000 or 9,000 acres.

Mr. DOMINY. That is up in the North Portal and Pavillion areas. When the problem began to show up I had a part in stopping settlement. We stopped the settlement of the Cottonwood Bench area, even though a canal system had already been run out to it. So we have not been completely wrong in the third division. All we are asking for now is a chance to go back and pick up that which is good, which we know is good, where the canals are all in, and the drains are in place.

Senator ANDERSON. Did you furnish water to that area this last year?

Mr. DOMINY. Yes, sir. To the leased land—the part that is leased.

Senator ANDERSON. What about 1966 and the 2 previous years—you started in 1967?

Mr. DOMINY. Mr. Langley can give you the data on that.

Mr. LANGLEY. There are two different ways to approach this. The act of March 10, 1964, provided for delivering water for 3 more years.

Senator ANDERSON. You intended to do that. Who had the authority to do something else?

Mr. LANGLEY. Authority exists other than what was supplied here in the act.

Senator ANDERSON. We did not need the extension of 3 years if it was in Federal ownership at all.

Mr. LANGLEY. Not as long as the land was in Federal ownership. If