

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK OF RIVERTON,
Riverton Wyo., October 9, 1967.

MIDVALE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
Pavillion, Wyo.

GENTLEMEN: Again it is my pleasure to give information and testimony on behalf of the Third Irrigation District, Riverton Reclamation Project. On October 31, 1961, I appeared and gave testimony before the United States Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee at the request of Senator J. J. Hickey. This testimony related to land values which I felt at that time and feel today compare favorably with other lands in the Riverton Reclamation Project.

Further, I gave testimony that "certain management practices vary, and this is evidenced by the fact that some farmers are successful on a particular farm unit whereas their predecessors have been unable to profitably produce from the same unit," and further, "Adequate capital and good business management as well as the individual farmer's ability to apply good agricultural practices and techniques to the land has spelled the difference between successes and failures that have taken place to date in the Third Irrigation District."

Now, just six years later, my faith in the Third Irrigation District is stronger than ever. As Vice President and as a director in the American National Bank of Riverton, I can say without reservation that I and all other officers here at the bank have expressed this same faith by furnishing capital for the leasing and operation of a number of those units in the Third Irrigation District for our customers. We will continue to furnish operating capital to farmers and ranchers who are our customers, and who would buy land in this district, for we believe in the future of this area just as strongly as we believe in the future of the whole Riverton Reclamation Project.

Sincerely,

JOHN R. BENESCH,
Vice President.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,
Riverton, Wyo., October 6, 1967.

MIDVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT,
Pavillion, Wyo.

GENTLEMEN: Your inquiry regarding the availability of operating loans to farmers located on the Third Division was received.

At the present time, we are supplying operating loans to several farmers leasing property in this area, and we see no reason why we could not continue to make funds available to owners. In fact, we would consider our loans more secure to owner-operators.

It is our firm belief that there is a considerable amount of land in the Third Division area which has good productivity, and we are confident that this productivity could be considerably increased by private ownership.

Very truly yours,

HARMON H. WATT,
President.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION,
Riverton, Wyo., October 2, 1967.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
Midvale Irrigation District,
Pavillion, Wyo.

GENTLEMEN: This agency is presently financing several leases on the Third Division with operating loans and their progress has been satisfactory.

If the Third Division is returned to private ownership, we anticipate financing the purchase of land to increase the size of present farms and to purchase individual economic units if any are sold on this basis.

The Farmers Home Administration has previously had real estate loans on