

year from state sources which are paid on the basis of average daily membership and census figures.

Not including the current year, the net loss of revenue over the past three years has amounted to approximately \$73,500. Since the School District has been at maximum mill levy for several years the loss has proved to be a serious handicap to the providing of satisfactory education for the remaining children of the School District.

Sincerely,

ROGER D. THORSON, *Superintendent.*

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
Lander Wyo., October 4, 1967.

MIDVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT,
Pavillion, Wyo.

GENTLEMEN: The Fremont County Board of Commissioners are extremely interested in the passage of the Riverton Reclamation Project reauthorization legislation (S.670 and H.R. 3062).

When the Third Division lands were purchased by the United States under the Act of March 10, 1964, Fremont County sustained a serious loss of tax revenue. In the Pavillion School District No. 32 there was a loss in assessed property valuation of \$211,410.00 and in the Shoshoni School District No. 24 there was a loss of \$118,144.00. This was a total loss of assessed property valuation for Fremont County of \$329,554.00.

The actual tax revenue loss in the Pavillion District was \$9,779.83 and in Shoshoni was \$5,797.33 for a combined total loss to Fremont County of \$15,577.16.

The reduction in tax revenue was a serious blow to Fremont County which was already having a difficult time in obtaining funds necessary to carry out traditional services to its citizens. County governmental services such as road repair and maintenance and weed control had to be continued even though compensating revenues were unavailable from the Third Division area after the buy-out.

These lands have continued to produce crops and pasture livestock for the non-owning lessees. The federal government received \$41,460.00 in 1965; \$46,770.00 in 1966; and \$42,845.00 in 1967 income as lessor of these lands. Fremont County has received nothing while attempting to maintain basic governmental services in the area.

We think the lands should be returned to private ownership and put back on the tax rolls so that they can contribute their fair share in supporting local government.

FREMONT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS,
WALTER V. RHODES, *Chairman*,
W. E. PEARSON,
TOM COLEMAN.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION,
REGION 6, RIVERTON PROJECTS OFFICE,
Riverton, Wyo., October 3, 1967.

MIDVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT,
Pavillion, Wyo.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. Edward Bogacz inquired regarding possible financing of the Third Division farm units in event legislation was enacted that would authorize sale of the land for continued irrigation. We contacted the Regional Office to determine what would be the possible Bureau of Reclamation financing. Although this matter has not been discussed with the Washington Office, it is presumed that at least the normal ten-year period of financing would be offered. At the present time, the interest rate on Bureau contracts is six percent per annum on the unpaid balance.

The Bureau of Reclamation would much prefer that financing on land purchase contracts be arranged with established Government or private financing agencies.

Sincerely yours,

ROY C. VAN DREW, *Project Manager.*