

that was of prime concern to you, Mr. Shoemaker, the proposal as made by the Forest Service.

Is this enough detail for you?

Mr. SHOEMAKER. Good; that is plenty.

Senator HANSEN. All right. You may proceed, Mr. Shoemaker.

Mr. SHOEMAKER. I appreciate the privilege of appearing here before you at this hearing. My intention in preparing testimony has been to discuss items that are relevant, but not often repeated by others. I prepared this, of course, before I had heard the others, so mine is also in line with what has been said before.

Senator HANSEN. Mr. Shoemaker, let me interrupt just a moment. Would you move the mike a little closer to you? I think those in the back may have trouble hearing you.

Mr. SHOEMAKER. My name is Leslie Shoemaker. I am speaking in behalf of the Wyoming Outfitters Association, which has paid the major part of my expenses to come here.

I am also speaking for myself and my family, associated with me in our business, and I would like to tell you and the group the reasons I feel qualified to appear before you.

I was the son of a forest ranger, and my boyhood was spent mostly on horseback in the high mountain ranges of western Colorado. My decision to emulate his career was made at an early age, and I pursued my professional training at the Forestry School of Colorado State University, studying not only forestry, but range management and plant ecology as well.

I served with and was dedicated to the aims and ideals of the U.S. Forest Service, for a satisfactory career of 21 years, the last 9 of which were spent as a ranger in the Wind River district of the Shoshone National Forest, stationed at Dubois. During my tenure in this position I developed such an affection for the Wind River Basin that when the Forest Service transferred me to Colorado in 1952 I decided not to leave.

I resigned and bought the CM dude ranch. This changed me overnight from a forest administrator to a forest permittee and user. Since that time I have enjoyed the privileges of a grazing permit for horses and cattle, a back-country cabin resort in the Wind River Mountains and, since 1954, hunting camps in Bear Basin and the East Fork of the Wind River.

My professional hunting time has been mostly spent with mountain sheep in the Wind River, and I have never spent a full hunting season in the Bear Creek or East Fork areas. Supervision has been done by my ranch foreman, my wife, and more recently by my son-in-law. However, I have personally guided many hunters in the Bear Basin area and am well acquainted with it. A substantial part of the CM ranch income has been derived from our hunting camps the last 14 years.

When I became established in the hunting business and learned of its various problems, it seemed desirable to upgrade the industry and try to eliminate or discourage the occasional deviation from acceptable practice that occurred from persons who were unscrupulous or unqualified.

I helped organize the Wyoming Outfitters Association, was a co-author of its constitution and bylaws, and served as the first president in 1959 and have served a second term. This organization has exerted