

On page 9 you will find line 1, "Eleven Point, Arkansas and Missouri, the segment between the Black River and Thomasville, Mo."

Mr. Chairman, I have been representing this area only a short time. The legislature of 1965 placed five new counties in the district that I serve, the First District. These counties came from Mr. Mills' district in view of the fact that Mr. Mills' second district had taken in the city of Little Rock. In order to even up the population, they gave the First District these five fine counties. Two of them, Randolph and Lawrence are particularly involved with the Eleven Point River that is incorporated in the provisions of this bill, located just south of the Missouri line.

I am most grateful for the opportunity of appearing here today and to give the views of the people that I am privileged to serve with regard to including Eleven Point River in this legislation. The people in this area of these two counties have been encouraging people from the city of Memphis and surrounding territory to come and use the Eleven Point. They have made access roads available so that they could move their boats in and floatfish if they desired to do so. But they have taken little advantage of these streams and apparently will not.

It is a very beautiful stream, this Eleven Point, but, Mr. Chairman, our problem in that area is flood control, and to try to hold the water where it falls. We have a rainfall in that particular territory of between 45 and 48 inches, and it comes at a time when the farmers want to plant their crops, and it is very difficult to grow crops when you have seep waters and head waters covering the vital farmlands.

Now, a survey was recently made of this Eleven Point by the Corps of Engineers. For a long, long time many of our people have been wanting to put a dam on this Eleven Point River and the resultant reservoir would encourage people from wide areas to come and use it, as a recreational area.

I have supported this Water Valley dam the short time I have represented this district. This survey made by the Corps of Engineers indicated that there were only a very few people, visitors, or tourists, less than 100, who have been using the Eleven Point facilities for fishing. So, it is almost insignificant, as a matter of fact. It has little value as a wild river in attracting outsiders to come there.

This area has many rivers. There are five in this one county, Randolph County. There is Fourche River, there is this Eleven Point, the Spring River, the Current River, and the Black River in this one county. I do not know of any other county in the State of Arkansas that has five rivers.

These people that want the dam project have said that out of the 166 miles of riverway in this county, they wanted "to impound only about 20 miles and build a dam and a reservoir." That is what we have been fighting for the past month that I have been serving this area. To include this river in this bill would defeat the project so many of us feel should be built.

There is quite a lot of interest by the people in this area to the striking out of the bill its inclusion of the Eleven Point River. Here is a letter signed by all of the county officials of Lawrence County, Ark., and I would like to furnish it for the record, signed by the county judge, the county treasurer, the circuit clerk, the county clerk, county assessor, county collector, county sheriff.