

anywhere from \$8 to \$12 an acre, lands which could grow timber but from which the timber has been harvested.

Once the mine has been completed and we have removed all of the ore from it the exposure in the sidewalls and the bottom of the pit will be essentially barren rock and it will take a long time before there will be any soil developing in the floor.

Ultimately these pits will fill up with water in any event, so the value after mining would only be in relation to recreational uses.

Senator JORDAN. Or wildlife.

Dr. SUNDEEN. Or wildlife or fish.

Senator JORDAN. But you are starting with land that has a surface value of \$8 to \$10 after the trees are removed?

Dr. SUNDEEN. Right. Our projections are that this mine will produce somewhere in the neighborhood of 150 million tons of ore, in lower lake values roughly \$15 a ton. That is \$2.25 billion worth of material as delivered to the lower lakes.

Senator JORDAN. The overall area has produced a wealth of over \$20 billion?

Mr. JOHNSON. That is correct.

Dr. SUNDEEN. Right.

Senator JORDAN. And the land after you remove the ore is worth but very little less than it was before you started your mining operations.

Dr. SUNDEEN. In some respects I think perhaps it may be worth more. It might make a real good fishing lake.

Senator JORDAN. Thank you. That is all I have.

Senator METCALF. Thank you, Senator Jordan. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. I have no questions. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator METCALF. Thank you.

Mr. Johnson, I am grateful to you and to your colleagues for a very comprehensive presentation of the workings of your industry in both the large and the small mines and the problems that this legislation would raise. We are aware of some of the conditions in the Mesabi Range. I think all of us have been there. I have been up there on mine safety hearings, and it was my privilege to attend one of those party celebrations for my friend John Blatnik. I think you have succinctly summarized the problems.

Thank you very much for your appearance.

Mr. JOHNSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, it has been a pleasure to have been here.

Senator METCALF. Senator Allott.

Senator ALLOTT. Mr. Chairman, I think the next witness is to be Mr. John B. Rigg, Jr., executive secretary of the Colorado Mining Association. I hadn't been able to locate him in the room.

Mr. Chairman, I am particularly happy to be able to introduce a man we know as Jack Rigg—I don't think very many people call him John—who for many years was an officer of the Colorado National Bank in Denver and whom I have known personally for a long time.

Last year he was induced to accept the executive-secretaryship of the Colorado Mining Association and I only want to say that the convention of the Colorado Mining Association this year was, I think, the most successful meeting that people who are interested in mining business in this country have had in a long time.