

Senator BURDICK. Mrs. Alice J. Grossniklaus, secretary of the Community Council for Reclamation.

**STATEMENT OF MRS. ALICE J. GROSSNIKLAUS, SECRETARY,
COMMUNITY COUNCIL FOR RECLAMATION**

Mrs. GROSSNIKLAUS. Mr. Chairman, my name is Alice Grossniklaus. I doubt whether you will have trouble hearing me because I practice what Senator Dirksen says, if it is worthwhile saying, "aim for the back row."

First, I am president, owner, and operator of the Alpine Cheese Factory, Wilmot, Ohio. It is also Ohio's showplace of cheesemaking. I point out that it is not a two-bit outfit in the hills. We are, however, only one of 20 cheese factories located in five counties underladen with coal.

The Ohio cheese industry has been a dependable source of income to the community for over 100 years. We have around 1,500 dairy families and the industry pays them around \$7 million a year income.

Industry to industry I cannot conceive of anything that is more damaging to the cheesemaking and all other agricultural industries than the turning of productive lands into strip mine devastation.

Secondly—this is every bit as important to me as the above—I am Secretary of the Community Council for Reclamation, Wilmot, Ohio. It is a nonprofit chartered organization. Its purposes are to accomplish more effective enforcement of present laws governing air pollution, water pollution, reclamation, and restoration of land and property damaged by mining and other operations, and to see additional laws and measures to improve conditions in the foregoing areas of operation, to stimulate and encourage public participation to the end that the foregoing objective may be accomplished.

With these purposes in mind, I now wish to present my addendum to the proposed testimony that I already handed in to the committee.

This addendum is presented in the form of photographic illustrations identified as reclamation reasons Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. The purpose is to portray the facts mentioned in the proposed testimony.

Following is a copy of descriptive data on the illustration, reclamation reason No. 1. Beautiful Ohio is underladen with coal in 27 counties—and there is a farming country photographed in Holmes County. Nearly all of the land underladen with coal in the counties affected are of this caliber, productive, beautiful, filled with natural resources, near populated areas, or a combination of all. Truly God-given.

Next we have three postcards which show a virgin forest. It is called Stark Wilderness Center. It is in Wilmot, Ohio. Many trees are labeled along Sigrist Woods Trail, such as this towering 200–250 year old red maple. Sigrist Woods is a heritage from the past, protected by man but managed by nature. The 409-acre center is open daily.

That is in Stark County.

Our council was instrumental in saving this virgin woods from strip mining. It is now an outdoor educational center for schools, clubs, and tourists.

Reclamation reason No. 2: Tuscarawas County strip-mined land-tax revenue versus non-strip-mined land taxes. Figures from auditor's office, Court House, New Philadelphia, Ohio. The established values