

I think we can control quite effectively abuses of our resources, whether water, timber, or grass, until the exploiters become stronger than the agents of control of exploitation. I think it would be very difficult for this small, rural county in western Florida, for example, to control Bunge, Inc. It would be no problem at all for them to corrupt and oppress and harass public officials in the county government, newspaper editors in the small country newspapers. Comparable offenses couldn't be perpetrated by the small farmer who owned and operated and made the decisions with respect to his own farm.

And I believe that the 1946 study of the two communities in San Joaquin Valley in California, the study which was inspired by this subcommittee, the study of Arvin and Dinuba, which was classic in 1946 and which unfortunately hasn't been repeated since 1946, they demonstrated quite graphically how the small farm community was responsive to local welfare, to local issues, to local leadership, whereas the large farm community, the absentee-owned farm community, corporation farm community, was in a position to completely disregard the welfare of the community and the wishes of the community.

And may I say parenthetically here, sir, you see, I was right in the middle of the land tenure debate in 1940 to 1950, and there wasn't an agriculturist in the United States who didn't know the Arvin-Dinuba story. It was a subject of debates in any professional gathering; and this is what I meant when I came back to the United States in 1960 after being gone for nearly a decade. The dialog was dead. My people in my organization, who are fine people, the best there are, incidentally, they didn't even know about Dinuba-Arvin. Agricultural writers, for who I have the highest regard, they haven't even read this study. The whole dialog of the social virtues and social values of family farming in this country has died. And I believe the most important product, perhaps of these hearings which this committee is conducting, will be the renewal of this dialog because if we ever get the American people talking about this issue and understanding this issue, I have the greatest faith in the ultimate outcome. But when we let dialogs like this subside, then we encourage evils like corporate farming to grow. And I really feel that we should have a resumption of the dialog which was started with the Arvin-Dinuba study.

I believe that there are some remedial actions that we ought to at least think about.

Senator NELSON. Let me interrupt here once more. I would think that you are correct that it's much more difficult perhaps to control the operations of the large, powerful, corporate combine. But I am concerned about another point. The Congress passed a law 2 years ago requiring all the States of the Nation to establish water quality standards and submit these water quality standards for intrastate waters to the Secretary of the Interior by the last day of June this year. Then the Federal Government will be establishing water quality standards for all interstate waters, and then each State will be required to enforce the standards after the water quality standards are established. In other words, standards will be established for streams and rivers and lakes, and then those who are introducing pollutants into those waters that will reduce that standard will be compelled to stop.