

The initial estimated cost of this program by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is \$2,040,000, consisting of a Federal share of \$1,879,500 and a non-Federal share of \$160,500. The benefit-cost ratio is 1.5 to 1.

When the basinwide program is completed, it will provide flood control for an area 125 miles long, and will protect 237,000 acres of land.

Gentlemen, each year the residents of the Exira area are faced with a situation which could easily produce a repeat of 1958. The spring of 1964 brought 27 inches of rain, equivalent to the average annual rainfall. On June 16 of 1966, 8 inches of rain fell north of Exira, with 11 inches to the south. This community lives in constant fear.

The Secretary of the Army on July 12, 1967, submitted to Congress a favorable report on the proposal to construct the David's Creek Dam. Testimony has been taken by the Senate Public Works Committee. It is hoped that your committee will choose to give final approval to this most meritorious program.

In this regard, the Corps of Engineers has advised that they could properly expend \$80,000 for planning on the Nishnabotna River Valley in fiscal 1969. Consequently, I respectfully request that your committee include an \$80,000 authorization for planning purposes for the Nishnabotna flood control program in fiscal 1969.

Thank you.

Mr. JONES. Are there any questions?

The next project is Texas City and vicinity, Texas, the La Marque-Hitchcock Extension.

TEXAS CITY AND VICINITY, TEXAS

Colonel SHAFFER. Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, this report concerns modifying the existing hurricane flood protection project for Texas City and vicinity to extend protection to La Marque and Hitchcock, Tex.

The unprotected area is about 28 square miles and it includes the western portion of La Marque and all of Hitchcock. In 1961, Hurricane Carla produced tides from 10 to 13 feet above mean sea level and caused damages of approximately \$2,350,000.

The existing hurricane flood protection project for Texas City and southeastern La Marque was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1958. Also, a flood control project for Highland Bayou provides protection to Hitchcock and La Marque from headwater flooding by channel improvement and construction of a diversion dam and channel to Jones Bay.

The Chief of Engineers recommends modification of the flood protection project for Texas City by construction of earth levee with related drainage and closure structures. The total first cost of the proposed extension is estimated at \$18,220,000 of which local interests would be required to contribute 30 percent, or \$5,466,000.

The total annual benefits accruing to the project are estimated at \$866,000 and the annual charges are estimated to be \$597,000. The benefit-cost ratio is 1.4.

Local interests have indicated willingness to meet the requirements of local cooperation.

Construction would be subject to the condition that if local interests do not provide firm assurances of local cooperation within 3 years