

James Cullum

REMARKS FOR VISITOR CENTER DEDICATION
MINNESOTA VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

SEPTEMBER 14, 1990

US Fish & Wildlife Service
Bill Nouri CDC
James Kelley Property所有者
Robert "Farms for the Center"
Recreation Area

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE AND HONOR FOR ME TO BE
WITH YOU HERE TODAY. THIS IS A BEAUTIFUL BUILDING WE ARE
DEDICATING. AND IT SERVES SUCH AN IMPORTANT PURPOSE
IN HELPING US APPRECIATE AND LEARN ABOUT THE
WONDERFUL NATURAL BEAUTY OF THE LOWER MINNESOTA
RIVER VALLEY.

Heenan

THIS VALLEY IS A TRULY RARE ENVIRONMENTAL
RESOURCE: A HAVEN FOR WATERFOWL AND OTHER WILDLIFE
LOCATED JUST MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN MINNEAPOLIS.
I KNOW OF NO OTHER METROPOLITAN AREA IN THE NATION
WHERE YOU CAN FIND A RIVER VALLEY OF EQUAL NATURAL
BEAUTY OR WITH SUCH AN ABUNDANCE AND DIVERSITY OF
WILDLIFE.

WE MUST GIVE CREDIT TO THE MANY PEOPLE WHO
WORKED LONG AND HARD TO ESTABLISH THE WILDLIFE
REFUGE. ITS CREATION IN 1976 WAS THE CULMINATION OF AN
INTENSIVE EFFORT BY RESIDENTS OF THE MINNESOTA RIVER
VALLEY WORKING IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. FISH AND
WILDLIFE SERVICE AND WITH MANY STATE AND LOCAL
ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS. TOGETHER, THEY DEVELOPED A
REALISTIC AND WORKABLE PLAN TO PROTECT THIS IMPORTANT
RESOURCE.

THE FEDERAL ACTION ESTABLISHING THE REFUGE
WAS A BIPARTISAN EFFORT. HUBERT HUMPHREY AND I
SPONSORED THE SENATE LEGISLATION. BILL FRENZEL
SPONSORED THE COMPANION BILL IN THE HOUSE. THE
MINNESOTA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION — REPUBLICAN
AND DEMOCRAT — WAS UNITED IN FAVOR OF PROTECTING
THIS WILDLIFE AREA.

AN EDITORIAL FROM THE NEW PRAGUE TIMES SAID:

"THE GRADUAL ENCROACHMENT BY VAST INDUSTRIAL COMPLEXES, IS PRESENTING AN EVER INCREASING THREAT TO THE EXISTENCE OF THE WILDLIFE AREA, PUSHING IT BACK EVER FURTHER, ... AND ONCE IT IS GONE, IT IS GONE FOREVER. THE UNIQUE, WILD QUALITY OF THE VALLEY ALONG THE RIVER RECOMMENDS IT AS ONE OF THIS AREA'S REAL ENVIRONMENTAL TREASURES.

WE HOPE THAT SENATOR MONDALE'S BILL WILL SAVE IT ..."

Here, Voggers, St. Cray,
+ the Wildlife Refuge

WE ACTED JUST IN TIME. AS WE HAVE ALL SEEN, THE
TWIN CITIES METROPOLITAN AREA CONTINUES TO GROW AND
PROSPER. THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE MINNESOTA RIVER, IN
PARTICULAR, HAS BEEN EXPANDING RAPIDLY WITH NEW HOMES
AND INDUSTRIES. FORTUNATELY, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO
PROTECT THIS ~~SMALL~~ PART OF THE METRO AREA IN ITS
NATURAL STATE. IT MAKES THE WILDLIFE REFUGE ALL THE
MORE PRECIOUS.

BUT, OF COURSE, THE PURPOSE OF THE REFUGE IS
NOT TO KEEP PEOPLE AWAY. ITS GOAL IS INSTEAD TO PROVIDE
OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE TO VISIT AND ENJOY. IT IS HERE SO
WE CAN COME AND EXPERIENCE DIRECTLY THE MINNESOTA
RIVER VALLEY'S RICH DIVERSITY OF PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE.
AND THAT'S WHY WE HAVE THIS NEW VISITOR CENTER — SO
MINNESOTANS, YOUNG AND OLD, CAN LEARN ABOUT NATURE
SO CLOSE TO THE TWIN CITIES. Particularly the young — so few enjoy
AND, ACTUALLY, THIS WILDLIFE
REFUGE IS A NATIONAL, AS WELL AS A LOCAL, RESOURCE. IT HAS

ATTRACTED PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY AND
AROUND THE WORLD DURING THEIR VISITS TO OUR STATE.

WITH THE WILDLIFE REFUGE AND WITH THIS NEW
CENTER, I THINK WE HAVE TWO MORE GREAT EXAMPLES OF
WHAT MAKES OUR STATE'S QUALITY OF LIFE SO SPECIAL AND
WONDERFUL.

THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY TO CELEBRATE THE
GRAND OPENING OF THIS VISITOR CENTER.

about "involvement" in the internal affairs of other nations. I hope that my fellow Senators will agree with me and with many other nations that failure to ratify the Genocide Convention is inconsistent with the advocacy of universal human rights.

POLITICAL PERSECUTION IN MALAWI

Mr. CHURCH. Mr. President, one country where political and religious persecution has recently been brought to light is Malawi. There more than 30,000 members of the Jehovah's Witnesses have been forced to leave their homes because of persecution instigated when they refused to join Malawi's only political party.

I ask unanimous consent that an editorial from the Wall Street Journal and an article written in Zambia by Dial Torgerson for the Los Angeles Times which reveals what is happening to the Witnesses be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the articles were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

[From the Wall Street Journal, Jan. 2, 1976]

PLIGHT OF THE WITNESSES

Stories have been trickling out of Africa during the past several months recounting the religious persecution of Jehovah's Witnesses in Malawi. Witnesses have been murdered, beaten by gangs, robbed, sexually abused and their houses burned down. Spokesmen for the Witnesses say that at least 30,000 of their members are being held in detention camps.

Religious persecution is an old, old story, of course, and the comparative handful of Malawi Witnesses are only a tiny fraction of the millions of religious faithful persecuted or harassed in Communist nations and elsewhere. Moreover, the two million or so Witnesses tend to keep a low profile except to proselytize so it's pretty easy for the outside world to overlook their travail.

Still, Jehovah's Witnesses tend to get under the skin of governments more than do most denominations, since they refuse to pledge allegiance, serve in armed forces or join political parties. Democracies tend to tolerate such refusals, but dictatorships are usually not that indulgent. The Castro government harshly persecuted Witnesses, including former world boxing champion Kid Gavilan, and Malawi appears to be going further.

Malawi formally banned the Jehovah's Witnesses in 1967 when they refused to join the country's only political party, the MCP. Many Witnesses fled to nearby Zambia, but most were subsequently forced back to Malawi. Whereupon some 35,000 fled to Mozambique, but when the present Marxist regime came to power last summer it forced them back again because they refused political indoctrination. Last summer the MCP congress urged that all remaining Witnesses be fired from their jobs and evicted from their homes, so many are now reportedly dying of starvation and disease. The Witnesses' publications carry tales of brutal tortures.

The plight of the Witnesses is closely bound up with the wider persecution and harassment of unpopular minorities in Third World nations, not just religious minorities but ethnic and racial minorities as well. Some 50,000 Asians were expelled from Uganda, 30,000 Portuguese, Pakistanis and Greeks were expelled from Zaire, another 10,000 Europeans were forced out of Ethiopia after the military junta seized their enterprises.

And, Tanzania's President Nyerere, frankly warned white settlers they were unwelcome in his country.

Most of the persecuted Witnesses are blacks native of Malawi. But what they have in common with the Asians and Europeans cited above is that they are being used as scapegoats by regimes that never tire of lecturing the developed world on the evils of racism and other sins of Western democracies. More remarkably, there are still Westerners who take such lectures seriously; they ought to talk to the Witnesses.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES FLEE AFRICAN PERSECUTION

(By Dial Torgerson)

KITWE, ZAMBIA.—Thousands of Jehovah's witnesses, in hiding or exile here from neighboring Malawi for refusing to join the Malawi Congress Party, are living in fear of being sent back by Zambian officials.

Some members of the New York-based evangelical sect, now seeking shelter in Zambia, said that being forced to return to Malawi could be tantamount to a death sentence.

"If we are sent back, we will be imprisoned for three years," said one elder of a Malawi congregation. "I was in a Malawi prison for one month and I know I could not survive for three years."

Malawi Witnesses and church officials interviewed in this northern Zambian city said persecution of Jehovah's Witnesses in Malawi included:

Brutal beating administered by members of the Malawi Youth League and the Young Pioneers.

Numerous incidents of rape and sexual abuses.

Threats to take children away from Witnesses who refused to join the Malawi Congress Party.

Imprisonment under inhumane conditions.

The Malawi government has encouraged other Malawians, including members of other Christian churches, to harass and attack the Witnesses, elders of the Malawi congregations said.

Members of Jehovah's Witnesses refuse to join political parties; salute flags or say oaths of allegiance and refuse to fight when attacked, citing the words of Jesus to Pontius Pilate (John 18:36): "My kingdom is no part of this world. If My attendants would have fought."

The tenets of the Witnesses' beliefs have brought them trouble in many parts of Africa because they clash with a surging spirit of nationalism encouraged by leaders of newly independent states.

Intensive person-to-person evangelism is increasing Witness membership by as much as 14 per cent a year in some African nations and political leaders see the swelling numbers of Witnesses as a threat. Each Witness gained is a loss to the local party.

It has been in Malawi—a bean-shaped land of 5 million—that Jehovah's Witnesses have been subjected to the worst pressures to join the national party. Some 19,000 left Malawi for then-Portuguese Mozambique in 1972 rather than buy membership cards.

Jake Mwale, a stocky man of 54, gives this account of how his family lost their refuge in Mozambique last summer.

"A Frelimo officer came to our camp near the border and ordered all the brothers and sisters to come to a meeting in a grassy field near our huts. (Frelimo is the party which took over from the Portuguese in Mozambique.)

"Some soldiers stood around us and an officer said, 'I will now lead you in a shout of 'Viva Frelimo.' And he shouted 'Viva Frelimo.' None of us said anything. It was very silent. And he said 'Sing one of your own songs, then.'"

An elder led the Witnesses in singing their

Hymn 27, which tells how "Jehovah's band of warriors in unity advances." Then, said Mwale, the officer said: "They can sing their own song but they can't say 'Viva Frelimo.' They must be pushed out of the country."

Mwale, his wife and seven children, ages 6 to 22, were among the thousands of Witnesses marched back across the border Aug. 23. They were forced to return to their home villages, many on foot, where officials again demanded they buy party cards.

Mwale and his family escaped into the bush. Search parties pursued them, setting the brush afire. The Mwales were among thousands who were able to make their way to Zambia.

Mwale said that 1,900 Witnesses are now in prison in Malawi serving three-year terms for belonging to an outlawed organization. The Witnesses were declared an unlawful society in October 1967.

Thousands of others are in the bush or are living as illegal aliens in nearby countries, subject to deportation if arrested.

MINNESOTA VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE RECREATION AREA

Mr. MONDALE. Mr. President, in July, I introduced legislation to provide for the establishment of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Recreation Area. This proposal represents the culmination of an intensive effort spanning several years during which residents of the Minnesota River Valley worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and with State and local environmental organizations to develop a realistic and workable plan to protect this important resource.

The Lower Minnesota River Valley is a truly rare environmental resource; a haven for waterfowl and other wildlife located within a few minutes drive of downtown Minneapolis. I know of no other major metropolitan area in this country in which there is a river valley of equal natural beauty or abundance and diversity of wildlife.

To point out the citizen interest and participation in this proposal, I would like to share with my colleagues several editorials from Minnesota newspapers and a letter from a property owner in this area.

Mr. James E. Kelley, of Bloomington, Minn., sent a letter to Senator WENDELL FORD who chaired the hearing on the wildlife recreation area in Bloomington in November, outlining the historical background of Long Meadow Lake which is located on his property. You will note from his letter the respect the property owners have for their land and the care they take in setting up and maintaining the wildlife areas. Under my proposal, sport fishing and other recreational activities which are so popular in the flood plain would continue.

Unless we protect this unique area from careless development, future generations will not be able to enjoy the many opportunities for hiking, photography, hunting, fishing, and other wildlife-oriented activities this resource provides.

I ask unanimous consent that the letter from Mr. Kelley and the articles from the Minnetonka Sun, the Minneapolis Tribune, the New Prague Times, and the

Minnesota Valley Sun be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

KELLEY AND O'NEILL,

ATTORNEYS AT LAW,

SAINT PAUL, MINN., November 5, 1975.

Re Long Meadow Lake,
Senator WENDELL FORD,
Chairman, Commerce Committee, Environ-
mental Subcommittee, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR: At the suggestion of the Honorable Walter F. Mondale, Junior Senator for the State of Minnesota, I am writing this letter to you in order that you may have some of the historical background of Long Meadow Lake. I am a resident of Bloomington, Minnesota and have been ever since the year 1933 when my wife Margaret and I built our home in which we now live at 2901 East Old Shakopee Road in that city. I am a lawyer by profession. I was admitted to the Bar of Minnesota in 1917 and except for the sojourn in the United States Army in World War I, I have been and now am actively engaged in the practice of law in the City of St. Paul, Minnesota.

It was in the early summer of 1932 that I had the first opportunity of realizing the beauty and charm of Long Meadow Lake. Mrs. Kelley and I were then living in St. Paul on Riverwood Place near St. Thomas College. Our only child, Cynthia, was four years old. We decided we wanted a home in the country. In looking around the area we discovered the old Garret VanNess farmstead at 2901 East Old Shakopee Road in the Village of Bloomington. We immediately fell in love with what we saw and decided then and there to look no further. Old Shakopee Road was then but a dirt road leading from the town of Shakopee in Scott County to and through the Fort Snelling Reservation and ending at Fort Snelling proper. Then it was the Village of Bloomington and in 1932 the population of the entire township did not exceed a thousand persons. It was a farming community exclusively. The majority of the farmers were market gardeners who would sell their products principally in the Minneapolis Farmer's Market. There were also a number of dairy and livestock farms in the area.

Garret VanNess had acquired his forty acres in 1875 from Franklin Steele, a former high-ranking U.S. Army officer who had been stationed at Fort Snelling after the Civil War. The Fort Snelling Reservation, prior to the Civil War, was a much larger area than it is now and evidently at the time the Federal Government decided to cut down the size of the reservation General Steele was able to purchase a sizeable part of the west end of the reservation including, I am told, that portion of Long Meadow Lake east of Cedar Avenue.

The Long Meadow Gun Club is perhaps the oldest duck hunting club still existing in the state of Minnesota. It was incorporated under the laws of the state of Minnesota in the year 1883. The founders were men who lived in Minneapolis and were engaged in the grain business and were avid duck hunters. They were attracted to Long Meadow Lake because of the excellent wild fowl shooting that it provided in the early spring and fall when duck hunting was then permitted. Long Meadow Lake was properly named. One looking at the area from the bluff on the north side of the lake during the summertime would have difficulty in seeing any water in the area east of Cedar Avenue. The Lake is shallow and in the summer it is practically covered with a dense growth of green aquatic vegetation which waves in the summer winds as a set of green lush grass. It is this vegetation that affords excellent cover and feed for all forms of wildlife. Wild fowl, particularly, not only linger in large flocks in

the spring on their way north and in the fall on their way south, but many find the area a desirable place to nest and raise their young.

Mrs. Kelley and I purchased the VanNess farmstead from nine members of the Long Meadow Gun Club in October, 1932. They had acquired the property from the VanNess estate in 1918. For many years prior thereto the Club had an agreement with VanNess that permitted the club members to use a driveway from the Old Shakopee Road through the VanNess property down the bluff road and terminating at the clubhouse. The club kept open house the year round and their caretaker, and his wife, resided therein. This house was a very substantial building, handsomely furnished with fifteen bedrooms and at least four bathrooms, a large dining room and clubroom with a large kitchen and living quarters for the caretaker and his wife. For years, immediately south of the clubhouse there was a sizeable stable wherein the members would stable their horses which they used to haul their carriages to and from Minneapolis. This was the only means of transportation that the club members had prior to the coming of the automobile.

The record discloses that the Long Meadow Gun Club had a lease agreement with Garret VanNess wherein they paid him fifty dollars a year for the privilege of using his driveway through his property and to their clubhouse which was located on a knoll immediately to the west of the westerly boundary of the VanNess property. In addition they gave him the exclusive right to trap wild animals and to catch fish on Long Meadow Lake, "except that the club reserved the right to have the club members and their employees to fish for themselves". We are told that Garret VanNess was not much of a farmer but he was a very successful trapper, fisherman and guide and was able through this endeavor to eke out a good living for himself and his family. The lake has provided a wonderful environment for muskrats, particularly. I recall that one spring the then caretaker for the Club told me that seventy-five hundred dollars worth of muskrat hides had been harvested and sold in that year. My recollection is that this particular year followed a period when trapping had been prohibited for a couple of seasons.

When we made our purchase of the VanNess farmstead it was necessary that we continue to provide a roadway to the clubhouse. This was done by an arrangement with our neighbor, Hanson, immediately to the west of us. He also owned some eighty acres of Long Meadow Lake and leased the shooting rights thereon to the Long Meadow Gun Club. There was public access to the Hanson property from Old Shakopee Road and it was a comparatively simple matter for the Club to build a road east and west across our property below the bluff to the Hanson property and connect it to this public access road. At this time I was invited to become a member of the Long Meadow Gun Club and have continued my membership ever since.

At the northerly end of Long Meadow Lake there is an outlet known as Little's Creek that flows into the Minnesota River. Since the very early history of the Long Meadow Gun Club there has been a man-made dam on Little's Creek which has enabled the club to raise the water level of the lake in the fall for better shooting and to lower it in the spring to aid in the increased growth of aquatic vegetation. It is in the fall with a higher water level and the aid of Jack Frost that the area becomes truly a lake and not a meadow. From the beginning the Long Meadow Gun Club has never permitted wild fowl hunting in the open water of the lake. All of the shooting has been done from blinds that have been

built on a point of land which extends almost across the lake from the east toward the west. There is room for about a dozen blinds based pretty much in a straight line from east to west. The members would have their breakfast at the clubhouse, draw for the blinds and then push off in their boats to the point where they would land and go to the blinds of their choice.

In the late 40's the club acquired a right-of-way from Clay Cummings, who for years had a dairy farm on 34th Avenue in Bloomington, the southerly border of which is now the center line of 80th street east of 34th Avenue. After acquiring this right-of-way the club abandoned the laborious practice of pushing their boats across Long Meadow Lake and drove their cars around the lake to the south side of the point.

For many years Rosa P. Vincent owned the land consisting of approximately 900 acres, all of which she leased to the Long Meadow Gun Club and which comprised the major part of their shooting and hunting grounds. If I have been informed correctly, she was an heir of Franklin Steele. Upon her death the Trustee of the Rosa P. Vincent estate continued to leave the property to the Club until the summer of 1941. At that time the trustee decided that it wanted to sell this property and some of the members of the club suggested that inasmuch as I owned the land adjoining the club that I buy it from the Trustee and lease the hunting rights to the club. At the time I was representing a Mr. Gust Hohag as his counsel in some protracted litigation and he informed me that he wished to acquire this property. He was an old time resident of Bloomington and also a duck hunter and I suggested to him that we buy it together and we did. We each acquired an undivided one-half interest. Upon his death Mrs. Kelley and I acquired his interest. Some years later I transferred our interest to me as trustee for a trust that had been created for the benefit of my daughter and my grandchildren. I as trustee continue to own the property. Meanwhile, the Long Meadow Gun Club has continued to lease the shooting rights on migratory wild fowl and their members continue to enjoy good duck hunting from this estate. Unfortunately the clubhouse was destroyed by fire in 1956.

While I have not personally hunted wild fowl east of Cedar Avenue along the Minnesota River Valley to Shakopee I know that similar conditions do exist along it in areas that have provided and continue to provide excellent wild fowl shooting.

Yours very truly,

JAMES E. KELLEY.

REFUGEE PROGRESS

Based on the informational meeting and discussion of the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge proposal, it would appear that all of the important interests in the valley can be served at the same time one of the region's most valuable resources is being preserved.

Sen. Walter Mondale spoke in support of the refuge proposal as did other speakers from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and from the Minnesota River Valley during an informational meeting last week.

Concern was expressed about whether or not the nine-foot river channel necessary for local industry will be maintained, if the wildlife refuge is acquired.

John Hemphill, regional director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said his agency will not oppose navigation of the river, that this is part of the agency's policy.

We support the wildlife refuge proposal and urge residents to write or wire not only their U.S. senators and congressmen, but also the members of the U.S. Senate commerce committee. The next step in the wildlife proposal becoming a reality will be taken during the hearings before the commerce committee in September.

We are heartened with the progress the proposal has made thus far.

[From the Minneapolis Tribune, July 27, 1975]

PROTECTING THE MINNESOTA RIVER

We hope Congress moves quickly to approve the Mondale-Humphrey bill to establish a national wildlife refuge and recreation area in the lower Minnesota River Valley—the final 25-mile stretch of the river. Through only a small portion of the valley between Carver, where the river's flood plain begins, and Fort Snelling State Park, where the river joins the Mississippi, has been lost to development, close to half of it is zoned commercial or industrial.

The Mondale-Humphrey bill should authorize the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to create a 9,540-acre wildlife refuge composed of nine separate units within the boundaries of the proposed wildlife-recreation area. The fish and wildlife service would have exclusive responsibility for management of the refuge, while management of the larger recreation area would be coordinated under a comprehensive plan to be developed jointly by federal, state and local government agencies within two years of enactment of the bill.

The measure would assist state and local preservation efforts by providing federal funds for up to 60 percent of the cost of acquisition of land and easements. Navigation on the Minnesota would not be affected by the bill, nor would the industrialized areas in Burnsville, Chaska, Shakopee and Savage. The main focus of protection would be on "areas in the flood plain whose primary value lies in their richness as a wildlife resource."

If the valley's fast-dwindling touches of nature are saved, credit must go to the enterprising citizens—now joined in the Lower Minnesota River Valley Citizens' Committee—who began the preservation effort two years ago. It was their efforts that convinced the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the value of creating a wildlife and recreation area in the valley and their efforts that persuaded Sens. Mondale and Humphrey to push for congressional action.

It is, as Marialice Seal, co-chairman of the citizens' committee says, "a very rare thing for a major city to have this beautiful and rich river running right through and available by bus. Now it is up to Congress to complete the work citizens have started and secure what could be—on the very doorstep of the Twin Cities—a thing of lasting beauty and value."

NEW PRAGUE TIMES

The possible establishment of an extensive national wildlife refuge and recreation area in the lower Minnesota River Valley was discussed at a hearing of the Senate Commerce Committee's environmental subcommittee, held in Bloomington on Monday morning. Subject of the hearing was a bill proposed by Senator Walter Mondale of Minnesota, which along with certain amendments also proposed by Mondale, would establish a 17,500-acre refuge and recreation area in the river valley, stretching from Jordan to Fort Snelling.

At the meeting on Monday, the governor and various state officials urged a U.S. Senate environmental subcommittee to establish the area forthwith. It was pointed out that the valley is "under intense development pressure" and that prompt federal and state action will be required if the area is to be preserved.

Passage of the Mondale bill was also urged by Robert Herbst, state commissioner of natural resources.

The Times and other area media were informed of the meeting, which was held in the Oxboro Community Library, however we regretted that we could not attend. The Mon-

dale bill would help to achieve something which this writer, personally, has long hoped to see attained. . . . the preservation for posterity of the river valley acreage, in its natural state.

The gradual encroachment by vast industrial complexes, is presenting an ever increasing threat to the existence of the wildlife area, pushing it back ever further, . . . and once it is gone, it is gone forever. The unique, wild quality of the valley along the river recommends it as one of this area's real environmental treasures.

We hope that Senator Mondale's bill will save it . . .

[From the Minneapolis Tribune, Dec. 30, 1975]

PRESERVING THE MINNESOTA RIVER

We hope that when the Senate reconvenes it will give early consideration to a Mondale-Humphrey bill that would set aside 17,500 acres in the lower Minnesota River Valley between Jordan and Fort Snelling as a national wildlife refuge and recreation area. (Rep. Frenzel is sponsoring a companion bill in the House.)

About 3,000 acres of the proposed refuge-recreation area already are in public ownership in the form of parks and preserves. Another 6,000 acres are covered in a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposal which would set them aside as a wildlife area. The remaining 8,000 acres would be administered by the state and local governments. Privately owned land within the refuge would be acquired by the federal government under the Mondale-Humphrey bill at an estimated cost of about \$2 million.

Federal action, however, says Sen. Walter Mondale, who has taken congressional leadership of the preservation proposal, is not enough. It's also up to the state and local governments to do their part. The state already has spent \$2 million acquiring land and developing the Minnesota Valley State Trail, which would become part of the proposed refuge-recreation area. And the Metropolitan Council has given its support to both the fish and wildlife service proposal and Mondale's bill.

Preserving the natural and aesthetic beauties of the lower Minnesota River Valley is not a new idea. Gov. Floyd Olson suggested it as far back as the 1930s. Now its time has clearly come. As Gov. Wendell Anderson warned at a hearing in Bloomington of the Senate Commerce Committee's environmental subcommittee, the valley is under "intense development pressure," and quick action is needed.

PROPOSED WILDLIFE REFUGE GAINS SUPPORT AT HEARING

(By Frances Berns)

More than 150 persons crowded into the Oxboro Community Library in Bloomington Monday for the first Congressional hearing to be staged in this part of the country.

More than 40 testified before the Subcommittee on the Environment of the Senate Commerce Committee during the hearing on S. 2097, a bill to create a Minnesota Valley National Wildlife and Recreation Area.

Presided over by Senator Wendell Ford (D-Ky.) with Minnesota's Walter Mondale by his side, the hearing included such distinguished witnesses as Governor Wendell Anderson, Bloomington Mayor Robert Benedict, Richfield-Bloomington State Senator William Kirchner, Richfield-Bloomington State Rep. James Swanson, State Senator Bob Schmidt from Jordan and Scott County Board Chairman William Konlarsky.

Besides governmental officials the list also included: representatives of industry and business, witnesses from environmental organizations, private citizens and three young adults.

Senator Ford, who had arrived in the Twin

Cities Sunday night during the snowstorm, conducted the hearing in a congenial, yet business-like manner.

Ford described the proposed 9,500-acre refuge site as "one of the few river valleys in the nation that lies in such proximity to a metropolitan area and to a large extent retaining its natural state."

Senator Mondale described the proposal as "one of the most exciting and thrilling proposals I have seen in a long time."

"We can put together some 17,000 acres partly owned by the federal government, partly by local governments and county governments."

"It is an area of spectacular beauty," Mondale said.

The proposal would allow the use of the valley for navigation and would incorporate the state trail system.

The Minnesota delegation in Congress of both political parties stands together in support of the proposed legislation, Mondale said.

Serving as the first witness, Governor Anderson described the Minnesota Valley as a region of "relatively unspoiled natural beauty" endangered by threats of encroachment. The bill is "both timely and appropriate," the Governor said, because the valley is under intense pressure.

The Governor introduced Don Carlson, the metropolitan regional administrator for the Department of Natural Resources and Frank Marzittelli, commissioner of the Minnesota Highway Department.

Carlson asked that the bill be amended to permit a 200-foot strip across the refuge area for the state trail system where hiking, biking, skiing and snowmobiling will be allowed (except in Bloomington where the state legislation does not allow snowmobile use).

Marzittelli spoke in support of the wildlife refuge bill, but asked that the bill provide for the maintenance and replacement of highway needs.

In response to a question from Senator Ford, Governor Anderson said, "We desperately need federal help and help from the local communities in preserving our resources."

"We welcome federal dollars. They will be warmly received," Anderson said.

Senator Schmidt spoke in support of the refuge bill, but asked that there be adequate provision for highway and bridge facilities to accommodate the tremendous growth in his area.

Konlarsky testified that the bill and amendments offer "no firm commitment to the provision of a bridge crossing."

"In fact the wildlife refuge proposal constitutes a new threat to our efforts to get a bridge," Konlarsky said.

The Scott County board chairman read a resolution from his commissioners opposing the bill until the plans for a bridge crossing have been formulated.

Shakopee Mayor Ray Foslid also testified against the bill because there is no assurance of a permanent provision for a bridge crossing.

Bloomington Mayor Benedict read his city council's resolution supporting the refuge bill.

"In Bloomington we have a city policy of acquiring the valley, but at the local level we just do not have the wherewithal it takes to acquire the river valley for future generations."

"We believe today is the day to put our full support behind the bill."

Rep. Swanson supported the proposal with the assurance that there will be provisions for a new Cedar Avenue bridge.

Howard Dahlgren, planning consultant for the City of Burnsville, said the city endorses the concept, but has a problem "that 40 percent of the land in the Northern States Power holdings are included in the proposal. There would be a potential \$213 million

loss in revenue to the Burnsville School District over 25 years if the industrially zoned lands in the valley were not developed, Dahlgren said.

Dahlgren estimated the potential development that might be lost at \$188 million.

Senator Ford said there will be provision "in lieu of tax payments" and predicted that the wildlife refuge could be a source of revenue in the area, particularly in light of the services such as sewers that would not be needed if there were no industrial development.

Marty Jessen, park and recreation director for Eden Prairie read a resolution of support from the Eden Prairie city council. He urged that the annual revenue payments be made to the local governments.

Jack Mauritz, representing Hennepin County Park Reserve District, who spoke in support of the refuge bill, stressed the need for joint management and interpretation in the James Wilkie Regional Park in Scott County. The park would be surrounded by the wildlife refuge.

Nancy Sullivan, Burnsville, said it was the Burnsville Environmental Council who first proposed the establishment of a national wildlife refuge area in 1973.

There have been five major floods in the past two decades, she said, but Burnsville has zoned the flood plain for industrial development. She described the practice as "unbelievably bad planning."

"In reality the development of flood plains is more costly to the public than preserving the flood plain for wildlife," Mrs. Sullivan said.

Continental Grain Company is currently exploring the possibilities of expansion and would not support any proposal which would curtail the use, maintenance and possible expansion of its facilities, Peter Jacobson, representing Continental Grain, said.

Ray Halk, attorney for the Lower Minnesota Watershed District, said the bill ought to conform to the boundaries of the area needed by the watershed for maintenance of the navigation channel and should consider the district's continuing responsibility for providing spoil sites.

RULES OF COMMITTEE ON AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE SCIENCES

Mr. MOSS. Mr. President, I submit for the RECORD, pursuant to section 190a (2), title 2, United States Code, the rules of the Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, and I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the rules were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

PROPOSED RULES FOR THE COMMITTEE ON AERONAUTICAL AND SPACE SCIENCES (Adopted Unanimously January 28, 1975)

Rules governing the Procedure of the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, adopted pursuant to Sec. 133(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended by Sec. 130(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970.

1. GENERAL

All applicable requirements of the Standing Rules of the Senate and of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, as amended, shall govern the committee and its subcommittees.

2. MEETINGS

(a) The meetings of the committee shall be on Tuesday of each week at 10:30 a.m. or upon call of the chairman.

(b) Each meeting of the committee shall be open unless pursuant to the Standing Rules of the Senate such meeting is to be closed.

3. NOMINATIONS

Unless otherwise ordered by the committee, nominations referred to the committee shall be held for at least seven (7) days before presentation in a meeting for action. Upon reference of nominations to the committee, copies of the nomination references shall be furnished each member of the committee.

4. HEARINGS

(a) No hearing on an investigation shall be initiated unless the committee or subcommittee has specifically authorized such hearings.

(b) No hearing of the committee or any subcommittee thereof shall be scheduled outside of the District of Columbia except by the majority vote of the committee or subcommittee.

(c) No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented in an executive hearing of the committee or subcommittee thereof or any report of the proceedings of such an executive hearing shall be made public, either in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of the members of the committee or subcommittee.

(d) Any witness summoned to a public or executive hearing may be accompanied by counsel of his own choosing who shall be permitted, while the witness is testifying, to advise him of his legal rights.

5. QUORUM

Three Senators, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party, shall constitute a quorum of the Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences for the purpose of taking sworn testimony, unless otherwise ordered by the full committee. Each duly appointed subcommittee of the Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences is instructed (1) to fix, in appropriate cases, the number of its entire membership who shall constitute a quorum of such subcommittee for the purpose of taking sworn testimony, and (2) to determine the circumstances under which subpoenas may be issued and the member or members over whose signatures subpoenas shall be issued.

BIOGRAPHY OF LATE SENATOR WILLIAM LANGER, PUBLISHER IN NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. BURDICK. Mr. President, during the recess, I had the opportunity to read a book that will be of great interest to many in the Senate.

"The Dakota Maverick," by Agnes Geelan, is the story of North Dakota's late Senator, "Wild Bill" Langer, who served in the U.S. Senate from 1940 until his death in 1959.

Many of my colleagues here today served with Bill Langer, and they no doubt remember what a dynamic and powerful legislator he was. He was unorthodox and flamboyant, but he was highly effective in getting what his constituents needed from the Federal bureaucracy.

"The Dakota Maverick" traces Bill Langer's life from his birth on his father's homestead to his death in 1959 when he was one of this Chamber's most powerful legislators. For those who know only of his colorful career in Washington, the story of his earlier years as a county attorney in the twenties and attorney general and Governor in the thirties is fascinating history. His political success, despite 16 arrests, three trials for conspiracy, and two challenges to his right to sit in the U.S. Senate, was amazing to all, especially to those who opposed him.

Bill Langer was a part of the agrarian-populist movement which dominated not only North Dakota, but the entire Upper Midwest. His rise to power is an important part of the history of this entire region.

The author of this book, Agnes Geelan, is a distinguished State figure in her own right. As a mayor, State legislator, and candidate for Congress, she was active in North Dakota politics and knew Bill Langer well.

Mrs. Geelan's book may not be the definitive account of Bill Langer's career; hopefully more will be written about him and the era in which he lived. It is a factual and well-researched record, however, and historians and nostalgia buffs fascinated by the color and excitement of populist politics and politicians will find "The Dakota Maverick" worthwhile and enjoyable reading.

SPEAKING UP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Mr. CHURCH. Mr. President, a column in the January 5 New York Times by Anthony Lewis reminds us of how differently the United States and Great Britain are treating the political repression in Chile. While Great Britain publicly condemns the government for torturing one of its citizens, the United States has done nothing of the kind, although American citizens have been treated similarly. The United States frequently stands silent in the face of brutal treatment of citizens in Chile, Brazil, the Soviet Union, and elsewhere.

Our support of repressive governments and our frequent silence in the face of their misdeeds is remembered long after the fact. Is it any wonder, he asks, if U.S. intentions in Angola are suspect after years of supporting Salazar's right-wing dictatorship in Portugal?

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Lewis' article, entitled "How To Deal With Thugs," be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

HOW TO DEAL WITH THUGS (By Anthony Lewis)

BOSTON, January 4.—The British Government did something the other day that by contemporary standards was news. It spoke out loud about the bestial behavior of another government. And it did so not to score a point in world politics or ideology, but to stand for a minimum level of decency in human affairs.

This unusual event occurred in the case of a British doctor, Sheila Cassidy. Dr. Cassidy has spent the last four years in Chile, working as doctor for a relief agency led by Chile's Roman Catholic Cardinal, Raul Silva. Last October she treated a wounded left-wing opponent of the Chilean junta. She was arrested Nov. 1.

Last week Dr. Cassidy was released, expelled from Chile and flown home. When she arrived in London, the British Government recalled its ambassador from Santiago. And the foreign secretary, James Callaghan, issued this statement:

"Now that Dr. Cassidy is safely out of Chile, I can state what we have up to now deliberately refrained from publicizing. This is that Dr. Cassidy was tortured by the Chilean security police. In order to obtain information from her, they stripped her and gave her



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