Remarks by
Gilbert G. Stamm
Commissioner of Reclamation
at Tehama-Colusa Canal
First Water Delivery and
Kanawha Pumping Plant
Dedication Luncheon
Blue Gum Restaurant
Willows, California
April 22, 1976

Mr. McFarland—always to have a gay C.P.
Congressman—Bigg Johnson,
Distinguished guests—me and all

Joke on costs—change 65-45c. ear

Ladies and gentlemen.

The dedication ceremony this morning marked a
real milestone in the progress of Glenn County toward
economic improvement and stability. Although only
half complete, Tehama-Colusa Canal is beginning to
supply water to this area through the first phase of
the Kanawha Water District facilities. From this point
forward, every mile
forward, every mile of canal constructed and put into operation will bring more acres of West Sacramento Valley land into permanent, productive irrigation.

I would urge those of you who can/to take the bus tour this afternoon. You will see for yourselves how the Bureau is going about its work on your canal system. You will get a good view of land about to receive a stable water supply. And you will see part of an area that has a striking resemblance to other parts of the Reclamation West.

From a developmental viewpoint, the Sacramento Valley--especially the Tehama-Colusa Canal service area--in many aspects is similar to both the San Joaquin Valley and Washington State's Columbia River Basin of 25 to 30 years ago.

Partial irrigation development is interspersed with large blocks of land suitable only for dryfarming or grazing, due to lack of a stable water supply. Overall productivity, in spite of good soil and climate, is poor to moderate, depending on the vagaries of year-to-year rainfall. Irrigated land suffers from declining ground-water levels and erratic surface water supplies.
water supplies. Both area and local economic conditions are weak and facing the possibility of further deterioration. Except for relatively small pockets of land with stable water supplies provided by carryover storage and adequate delivery capability, a dry winter—such as 1975-76 in California—can be an economic calamity.

The Central Valley Project, of course, was conceived and is being developed to counter just such conditions. We have been at work on CVP since 1936, and we have many years of work yet to do. But our work has long since begun to bear fruit, just as Tehama-Colusa Canal will produce as it is completed as an addition to the CVP system.

Our investment in the Central Valley Project, including work on Tehama-Colusa Canal, is $1.609 billion to June 30, 1975. Currently, the total estimated cost of the project is $3.225 billion, including about $142 million which we expect to invest in Tehama-Colusa Canal during the next several years.

The returns on our Central Valley Project and other Reclamation project investments in California are tremendous and continue to grow. The most recent list of the 10 leading counties in the United States in farm productivity
in farm productivity includes five counties served by the Central Valley Project: Fresno County, number one in the Nation; Kern County, number two; Tulare County, number three; San Joaquin County, number five; and Stanislaus County, number six.

The project delivers water to 131 water districts mostly in the San Joaquin Valley and about 106 individual water contractors, principally in the Sacramento Valley.

Bureau records show as of the end of 1974 that within the Central Valley Project there were just over 2.3 million acres of irrigable land held in beneficial ownership by a total of 61,164 individuals.

Agriculture is California's primary industry and one of the State's biggest employers, providing about 300,000 jobs in the fields. For each person employed on the farm, about three are occupied in related agricultural transport; in providing machinery and other implements, seed, fertilizer, and specialized services required by the modern farmer; and in the processing, handling, and sale of agricultural products.

During 1974, California marketed $8.5 billion worth of agricultural crop and livestock products, the highest in the Nation
highest in the Nation representing 9 percent of the Nation's marketings. Of California's 36 million acres of crop- and rangeland, only about 11-1/4 million acres in the State are considered as cropland. Of this total, about 8 million acres are maintained under irrigation for the production of the majority of all cultivated crops. During 1974 Federal water supplies were delivered to 2.9 million acres of California irrigated lands. By far the largest portion of this total was supplied by the Central Valley Project which delivered nearly 5.6 million acre-feet of water to about 2 million acres of irrigated land.

Immense quantities of water are required to meet the agricultural needs of the Central Valley Project service area. Use of Central Valley Project water has increased to a high point of 5.6 million acre-feet during 1974. Water delivered to irrigated farms through CVP facilities has made possible the production of crops with a gross value of $10.2 billion through 1974. The 1974 crop alone had a gross value of $1.37 billion.

The cumulative value of crops raised on Central Valley Project irrigated lands, through 1974, totals $10.2 billion.
The Tehama-Colusa Canal service area is beginning to be added to this giant food and fiber producing economic machine this year.

A University of California Extension Service study showed that Glenn County alone can expect an agricultural increase of $20 million annually and an increase of $22 million in allied business areas as a result of Tehama-Colusa Canal water supplies. Those increases are measured in 1972 dollars and a recalculation would surely show markedly higher numbers.

While these are remarkable figures, the evidence from other Reclamation projects throughout the West shows them to be well within reason.

A study of our Columbia Basin Project, where newly irrigated land and neighboring dryland can be easily compared, and which has many similarities to the West Sacramento Valley, showed every economic indicator way up after the start of project operations. The property tax base improved on a ratio of 6 to 1. Population, businesses operating, postal receipts and sales taxes all showed a 17 to 1 improvement in irrigated areas over dryland areas. Business and income tax collections were up 19 to 1; wages up 20 to 1; and
numbers of workers, 22 to 1. On a 10,000-acre base, the gross value of products and services showed an output ratio of nearly 7 to 1. Employment on the irrigated area was 10.6 times better than the dryland area.

Although there will be some variations, we anticipate similar improvements in the Tehama-Colusa Canal service area economy, especially in those areas planned for shifting from dryland to irrigated agriculture.

A significant and perhaps even more important method of estimating the impact of irrigated agriculture is to calculate the potential output of foodstuffs, which are sorely needed in a world daily growing hungrier.

We have looked into some of the possibilities for the Tehama-Colusa service area. While we cannot predict exactly the mix of crops you might elect to produce, you will have the capability to irrigate hay, grain and forage to annually produce milk for 390,000 people; or pork for 385,000; or beef for 85,000. In addition, you could meet the annual sugar requirement for half a million people and the annual tomato and tomato products requirement for 4.4 million and the yearly almond requirement for 56 million.

There is, of course,
There is, of course, still much work to be done to achieve the level of productivity I have just outlined. The remaining 58 miles of canal must be completed; pumping plants must be installed; and many miles of distribution pipeline must be laid and put into operation. Cropping patterns will have to be changed, as the new water becomes available.

Your enthusiastic support for this work is still required, if you are to successfully compete with demands on the Federal budget from other programs. The challenge to the spirit of your community remains.

Today's celebration, however, marked the beginnings of a new and growing challenge—one which I sincerely hope you will accept with great enthusiasm. Your new challenge is to take the fullest possible advantage of your opportunities to benefit from your new and stable water supply. Your efforts along this line will benefit not only the people of the Sacramento Valley, but California, the Nation, and the hungry of the world, as well. The return on your investment in this effort will be many, many times the cost.

The careful husbandry
The careful husbandry of sweet water and fertile land has always benefited mankind. I believe it is a safe prediction that the people of the Sacramento Valley will produce the same benefit in the Tehama-Colusa Canal service area.

will write another glowing chapter in the record books which testify to the broad and tangible benefits that result from intelligent control, development, management, and use of the land and water resources with which you are blessed.

May all your hopes be realized.
Glenn County - Chamber of Commerce
TEHAMA COLUSA CANAL WATER DELIVERY
LUNCHEON PROGRAM

WELCOME.......................... BETTY BALLOCK
GLENN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT

INTRODUCTION MASTER OF CEREMONIES ....... BETTY BALLOCK

REMARKS, INTRODUCTION.............. MC-ROY G. MACFARLAND
JUDGE GLENN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

SPEAKERS:
JAMES K. CARR. .... FORMER UNDERSECRETARY OF THE U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR
CHIEF, USBR HEADQUARTERS CHICO IN 1948 WHEN T-C CANAL PLANNING BEGAN.

GILBERT G. STAMM .. COMMISSIONER, USBR

DR. GORDON SNOW .... SPECIAL ASSISTANT, CALIFORNIA STATE DIRECTOR OF
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, TIM L. WALLACE

HAROLD PETERSON .... PRESIDENT, SACRAMENTO VALLEY WESTSIDE CANAL ASS’N.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS:

PRESENTATIONS:

BETTY BALLOCK ........ Remarks by Recipients
DAVE SOETH ........ Remarks by Recipients

CLOSING REMARKS ....... ROY MACFARLAND
Thank you, Judge McFarlane.

It is truly a pleasure to be here in California, especially on an occasion such as this. And it is an especial pleasure to do so in the company of Congressman Bigg Johnson who is one of the finest Congressmen ever to serve the people of this country. The first delivery of water from a Reclamation facility is always a joyous occasion. Other milestones are significant and essential prerequisites such as project authorization, groundbreaking ceremonies, but the greatest satisfaction comes from putting completed structures to work for the benefit of man. It signifies the culmination of a long struggle by local people and their representatives to achieve a practical and worthwhile end—the delivery of water to their lands, the continued productivity of the land, the stabilization of the underpinnings of a way of life.

This ceremony is especially significant, occurring as it does just at this time. No one knows any better than you people in the audience this morning that this lovely spring day, with all its promise, follows one of the driest years on record in California. Some crops have already been plowed under for want of natural rainfall. Cattle have been sent to slaughter for want of the rainfall needed to encourage rangeland grasses. Such is the need for water that this ceremony is only symbolic of several weeks ago the first water from Tehama-Colusa Canal was delivered to Kanawha Water District lands which could not wait. You passed some of those fields on your way here this morning.
Farther down the Sacramento Valley's west side, other lands wait for water from the Tehama-Colusa Canal, which will not arrive this year.

For those lands and people south of here, the struggle is not over. More hard work is yet to come to assure their water supply. But it will come to them as it is here today to the Kanawha Water District.

We are about half finished with construction of the canal through Reach 4, which is delivering water today. Reach 5, which some of you will see on the tour this afternoon, is scheduled for completion by August 1977. Reaches 6, 7, and 8 should be in service by 1980, if sufficient funds are available to meet our construction schedules.

Work on the Orland-Artois Water District distribution system to deliver 53,000 acre-feet yearly to that district has already started.

We signed a distribution system repayment contract with the Dunnigan Water District early in December of last year and work is underway.

The Colusa County Water District contract for water service was signed 11 years ago.

We anticipate a number of other contract signings later this year as water availability from the Tehama-Colusa Canal comes closer to completion.
When completed, the canal will serve family farms in a service area of more than 200,000 acres on the west side of the Sacramento Valley. It will bring the blessing of a stable water supply to lands that have traditionally been at the mercy of California's erratic weather patterns. Years such as this will no longer be a threat. The people of this area will benefit, and the people of these United States will benefit as this area makes its increased contribution beyond this valley to the State, the nation, and even beyond.

In an era when man's oldest enemy—hunger—is more and more threatening, the addition of the Tehama-Colusa Canal service area lands to the Central Valley Project will be a welcome reinforcement.

The challenge for Reclamation in California is to continue working successfully with your community and with others in the State on the host of water resource management problems they face. The problems are tough, but they will yield to the same kinds of dedicated, cooperative effort that went into bringing water to the Kanawha Water District.

You are to be congratulated on the beginnings of your success after three long years of effort to bring water to the west side of the Sacramento Valley.
I am happy to join you here today as Commissioner of Reclamation.

This is what Reclamation is all about. I am proud that we have been able to make this contribution to the continued prosperity of this area. And I look forward to the completion of the work we have yet to do. It is important work, and I pledge our best efforts.

You have my best wishes for success.

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