

May 12, 1981

LB 118

allow us to have a pact with other states controlling the Missouri River barge traffic. And I would just like to talk a little about why we need this pact. I think that we need this pact so we can stand united and say that we need X amount of cubic feet per second of water flowing down the Missouri River. We need adequate water for our barges, and if we don't have this it could curtail the barge traffic on the Missouri. And why do we want barge traffic on the Missouri? For one thing, the greatest thing we want to use it to haul our grain down the Missouri. Not only that, but we want we use it to haul molasses and fertilizer and many other commodities up the river. It is a cheap form of transportation, and, of course, in certain areas where we have lost the railroads, well it means a lot to us. I feel that if we get this pact established that we will speak with a more uniform voice and a stronger voice. I also feel that we can try and get our fair share of water and, of course, nowadays you know that there are a lot of other people competing for the Missouri River water, and irrigation is just one of them. But we also have other uses for it too. Therefore, I would strongly urge you to support the amendment, the committee amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President and members, a question of Senator Maresh.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR COPE: Senator Maresh, is there an A bill in connection with this?

SENATOR MARESH: No. No, there is no A bill with it. This won't be carried...I mean there won't be any expenses for quite a while because it won't be completed...we know it won't be completed before Kansas goes back into session after the first of the year, and there won't be any committee appointed until the compact is completed. So there is no expense with this bill. The only expense will be the expenses that would be incurred by the committee that will.... the three member committee. That's the only expense there will be.

SENATOR COPE: Thank you, Senator Maresh.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, a question of Senator Maresh. Senator Maresh, I certainly don't have