

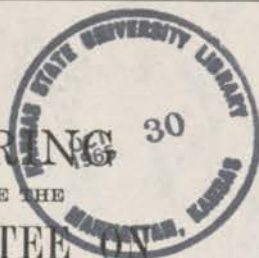
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HEARING
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON



INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS UNITED STATES SENATE EIGHTY-NINTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

THE NOMINATION OF HARRY R. ANDERSON AS ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR FOR PUBLIC
LAND MANAGEMENT

JULY 8, 1965

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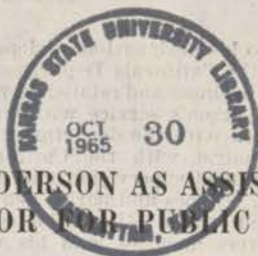
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NOMINATION OF HARRY R. ANDERSON AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR FOR PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1965

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to call, at 10:10 a.m. in room 3110 New Senate Office Building, Senator Henry M. Jackson (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Senators Henry M. Jackson (Washington), Alan Bible (Nevada), Ernest Gruening (Alaska), Frank E. Moss (Utah), Quentin N. Burdick (North Dakota), Thomas H. Kuchel (California), Gordon Allott (Colorado), Len B. Jordan (Idaho), and Paul J. Fannin (Arizona).

Also present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Stewart French, chief counsel; Roy M. Whitacre, professional staff member; and Richard N. Little, minority counsel.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order.

This is an open public hearing on the nomination of Mr. Harry R. Anderson, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Public Land Management. Mr. Anderson comes before the committee, and will approach his assignment, with a solid background of experience in key executive positions in the field of natural resources.

He has long been involved in administration of public policy relating to natural resources in the government of the State of California. At this point in the record, I will include a biographical sketch of the nominee for the information of the committee and the Senate.

(The document referred to follows:)

HARRY R. ANDERSON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

President Lyndon B. Johnson on June 30, 1965, announced his intention to nominate Harry R. Anderson, of Sacramento, Calif., as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Public Land Management, succeeding John A. Carver, Jr., who was elevated to Under Secretary in January.

The Assistant Secretary for Public Land Management has primary responsibility for operations of the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Office of Territories, and Alaska Railroad.

Mr. Anderson has been deputy director of the California Department of Fish and Game since January 15, 1960. The department has approximately 1,200 employees, with an annual budget of about \$12 million. Its responsibilities include wildlife protection, inland fisheries, game management, marine resources, water projects and pollution control, and special studies; the deputy director exercises direct supervision over headquarters branches of these operating units and over six regional managers.

Prior to his designation as deputy director, Mr. Anderson was administrative officer of the California Department of Fish and Game from 1952 to 1960, supervising all business and related service functions of the department.

Mr. Anderson's service with the State of California spans 30 years. Prior to his work with the department of fish and game, he served as a supervising budget analyst with the California Department of Finance. Major assignments included supervision and review of budgets for the departments of conservation, beaches and parks, fish and game, State lands, water resources, public works, and others. His major sphere of concentration has been with the natural resources agencies, and his work has included involvement with Federal agencies in the same field.

Mr. Anderson was born May 21, 1910, in Merced County, Calif., and spent his early years on a ranch.

He holds a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of California (1934). He was on active duty with the Army Air Forces for 4 years during World War II, including 2 years in the European theater as a combat intelligence officer and is a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force Reserve.

Mr. Anderson is married to the former Merle Kueny, of Sacramento. They have one daughter, Bettina, 20, a senior at the University of California.

He is an active outdoorsman who hunts and fishes. He is a Scottish Rite Mason, a Shriner, a member of the Elks Club, University Club, and Valley Hi Country Club; a past president of chapter No. 2 of the California Employees Association; a past president of the State Men's Club; and a past chairman of the Deputy Directors Conference Group.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Anderson, please come forward and be seated. However, before hearing you, I believe the senior Senator from California may wish to make some comments.

Senator KUCHEL. Indeed I do, Mr. Chairman.

I have known this nominee of President Johnson both officially and personally since the end of the Second World War. I became State comptroller of California in 1946. Mr. Anderson at that time was a member of the department of finance in the State government.

As a result, I had innumerable occasions to get to know him officially as well as personally. I want to say that speaking for the State, if I may, I am very much honored that the President has seen fit to appoint Mr. Anderson.

For many years, he has been a dedicated civil servant. There have been no party politics involved of any kind or character in the discharge of his duties. I am confident that he will conduct his new office as Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior in the same manner.

Yesterday I had an opportunity to talk with Harry, and we agreed that his new duties concern all of the people of all of the States. These responsibilities have nothing to do with politics or partisanship, and I am confident that in the discharge of his new duties, Harry Anderson will bring the kind of dedication to public service that the American people appreciate and to which they will respond.

I have no desire to cross-examine him. I simply want to say to my colleagues, my Republican colleagues, and those who sit on the other side of the table in this Senate committee, that I am delighted with this nomination. You and I will have a man in a position of responsibility and power in the Department of the Interior who wants to be helpful and who will be helpful and will devote himself to the public interest. I congratulate you, Harry, because, in my judgment, there is reason to believe that you may look forward to confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Mr. ANDERSON. Thank you, Senator.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Senator Kuchel.

I think it might be helpful, Mr. Anderson, if you would just summarize your biographical statement. You might start out by telling us where you were born and about your career to date.

I think that would save some time for members of the committee, before they begin to ask questions.

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

I am a native Californian, having been born in Merced County. I grew up on a small ranch in the county, and from there attended the University of California at Berkeley, majoring in business administration and, after approximately 1 year on the ranch, I took employment with the State department of finance.

The CHAIRMAN. You graduated?

Mr. ANDERSON. I graduated with a bachelor of science degree; yes, sir. Then in 1935 I was employed by the State department of finance until I went with the California Department of Fish and Game in 1952, with the exception of 4 years in the military service, the Air Force, World War II.

I went to work for the department of fish and game as the administrative officer having the responsibility for the fiscal, personnel, and general business administration and management of the organization. We have in this California department approximately a \$12 million budget and approximately 1,100 employees.

If I may just go back for a moment, my assignment with the department of finance was as a budget analyst. I left as a supervising budget analyst for the department of finance. The job there was to review and analyze the budgets of the various departments and make presentations to the legislative committees.

Since 1960, I have been deputy director of the department of fish and game. My responsibilities there have been in charge of the operational functions of the department. As general background, I long have been interested in farming and ranching. As I mentioned earlier, I grew up on a small ranch in the San Joaquin Valley and I still have several small pieces of property, and am carrying on a limited amount of activity through a tenant arrangement.

I believe, Mr. Chairman, that gives a thumbnail sketch, unless you have further questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Mr. Anderson.

Now, as I understand, your responsibilities will include the supervision over the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Office of Territories, and Alaska Railroad.

Do you have any preconceived ideas about how these bureaus and departments should be run? Is there any enlightenment that you could give to the members of the committee as to your philosophy of administration, policy, and so on?

Mr. ANDERSON. At this time, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that I want to approach the job and the problems concerning its activities with my eyes open, and with an open mind. I am definitely interested in good, efficient operations. We have a responsibility, I feel, to serve the public interest, and to operate in the most efficient manner possible. As for any particular philosophy of mine, I have not been close enough to many of these activities at this time to add much further here.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Bible?

Senator BIBLE. I don't know that I have any extensive questions of Mr. Anderson. I have known Mr. Anderson well and favorably for some number of years. I would be interested in learning whether or not, in his capacity as deputy director of the California Department of Fish and Game over the period of the past 5 years, he has had any occasion to have dealt with the Bureau of Land Management as such?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, Senator Bible. We have dealt with the Bureau of Land Management on a number of occasions. You will probably recall that California some years ago requested some recreation withdrawals on public lands, and withdrawals were granted to the State for recreational purposes. We have also dealt with the Bureau of Land Management in regard to the management of our deer herds in a number of areas, and we have always enjoyed good relationships with the Bureau of Land Management people as far as deer management is concerned, and especially the great basin herds in northeastern California.

Senator BIBLE. It occurs to me that one of our most difficult responsibilities is that which has to do with the management of the public domain, and I don't know whether you have had any occasion to go into questions of range management or range allotments, cutbacks in allotments, insofar as they deal with our livestock interests.

Would you have had any contact with that in your capacity as assistant director of the California Department of Fish and Game?

Mr. ANDERSON. Senator, not to any great extent. I know we have discussed with the Bureau of Land Management people the range conditions and the competition the range receives from cattle and sheep as well as the water situation, in an attempt to work out a range use pattern. I appreciate the cattlemen's and sheepmen's point of view. Of course, on the other side, we have the recreationists or the sportsmen and the hunters. Their solution at times is to say, "Well, if you remove the sheep and the cattle, then there will be plenty of room for the deer."

Senator BIBLE. How would you work that out? This is one of the many problems that we have.

Mr. ANDERSON. Senator, I thought that perhaps we were going to get into this area. I feel we have to work toward multiple uses. There should be room for both. I don't think we should stifle a cattle or a sheep community strictly to build up the deer herds. Now we have deer herds which should be kept in balance, and managed, and cropped like any other crop.

Senator BIBLE. Well, I don't expect you to have any magic answer, because we have worked in this area for a long time, and I know that it is a very, very difficult problem. I would certainly hope that you would, working with your Director of the Bureau of Land Management, attempt to come up with some firm conclusions as to how best to manage the public domain.

This may well come within the purview of our Public Land Law Review Commission as to the best uses that can be made of the range, but it is a constant problem, and an irritating problem, and one that I hope you will give very careful attention to.

I have no other questions at this time.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Allott?

Senator ALLOTT. I can't help but interject here that on this grazing versus deer, et cetera, that one of our fine farmers and cattlemen over near Greenwood Springs took a cowhide and stuffed it with some straw, not very well, and set it up in his field, and at the end of the deer season, he had eight bullet holes in it.

So that the problem is not at all one sided.

We have many questions, Mr. Anderson, pending before our committee with respect to mining and mineral leasing, and particularly as far as Colorado and Utah and Wyoming are concerned, in the oil shale business. I am not going to attempt to put you on the spot in any way, because these decisions are highly technical. But I would like to ask you if you now have any commitments, expressed or implied, or mental reservations, with respect to the policy of solving the patent location and leasing problems with respect to minerals on our public lands?

Mr. ANDERSON. Senator, I have no commitments, and I am really not familiar enough with it in sufficient detail even to answer your question intelligently.

Senator ALLOTT. Well, this is the reason I am putting it in general terms, and not asking specifically. These are highly technical questions on which a decision can be arrived at only after a great deal of study, but we have many questions which have been bogged down over in the Interior Department for a long time. I hope that we will have your assiduous attention to those things, because they are actually obstructing the development of our Western States at the present time.

I might also mention specifically, and I do not ask you for a commitment, but out of the 1960 revisions to the Mineral Leasing Act arose the question of what do we do about recordation of leases, and I have pending a bill on the subject. I will send you a speech that I recently made on this. It is not as much a speech as an analysis, but I hope this matter will receive your favorable consideration and attention, because it is a problem. It is an example of one of the many problems we do have in this area.

Now, I want to ask you two or three questions, Mr. Anderson. I hope you will not misunderstand them. I ask them for your own protection, and as a matter of form, not because of any doubts I have. I ask them so that you can protect yourself, and I am talking about the area of personal interests.

Do you have any financial interests in the areas which would come under your jurisdiction, or do you have any partners or hold any stocks in companies which have a financial interest in the area of your jurisdiction?

The CHAIRMAN. Senator, as chairman, may I respond in part? I was going to urge that this matter be taken up in executive session. I met with Mr. Anderson yesterday, and called to his attention that provision of the new conflict-of-interest statute that was passed, I believe, in 1963, which is extended not only to nominees, but to their wives and to minor children, for the first time, and, therefore, I suggested that he prepare a list of the family's resources, which he has done, and I have copies.

I think that we can go over the list in executive session or discuss it in public session whichever the committee prefers. The rule in the Armed Services Committee, generally speaking, is that the committee goes over the investments concerned as it affects the Defense Department, and then advises, after committee decision, what properties the nominee should dispose of, if any.

There are two on this list he has submitted which, obviously, should be disposed of. They are very minor holdings.

Senator ALLOTT. Then I shall not inquire into them at this time. I will bear with the wish of the chairman of the committee. But I believe that every Government appointee should have a right, for his own protection, to make this known to the committee, and let me ask the question in this way, then: You have disclosed to the chairman of the committee, under letter of July 7, 1965, and signed by you, the properties which you or your family own, and this represents the sum total of your financial records?

Mr. ANDERSON. It does.

Senator ALLOTT. I hope you understand, sir, that I am not trying to bedevil or beleaguer you. I am simply trying to make sure that you have an opportunity to get yourself in a position where you are entirely clear and free from criticism in the performance of your own office.

Mr. ANDERSON. I appreciate this Senator, and I have no reservations in divulging anything I have, or any connections and contacts.

Senator ALLOTT. Thank you very much, Mr. Anderson.

The CHAIRMAN. I should also like to say—we have not gone into this matter much in the past—I think the committee should adopt standard operating procedure regarding the requirement of nominees to disclose their resources. It is in the interest of protecting the Government, the public, and the nominee, as Senator Allott mentioned. I think it would be wise, too, that if there is any change in your holdings while you hold office, you should notify the chairman of the committee, and we will keep this in the file, and the other members will be advised, and in that way there will not be any trouble in the future about any possible conflict of interest.

These are rather new procedures, which I think the committee ought to go over, and which we can discuss in executive session as to how we should handle the question of private holdings.

Senator ALLOTT. Well, may I just say, Mr. Chairman, I have asked this question of numerous individuals who have come up before this committee for confirmation, and I regard it as much as a matter of protection for the individual as I do for the Government.

The CHAIRMAN. I agree with you completely. And I advised Mr. Anderson yesterday that it was his own interest to make a full disclosure. No one can later say that an attempt was made to withhold information on securities or resources that he might have that would in some manner be in conflict with his official duties.

Senator ALLOTT. That is all I have.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Gruening.

Senator GRUENING. Mr. Anderson, are you familiar with the structure of the Department of the Interior? Are you familiar with how it is organized?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

Senator GRUENING. Would you mind telling us what the various offices do there, Secretaries, Under Secretary? There are four Assistant Secretaries, are there not?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir. The Under Secretary, the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Assistant Secretary for Public Land Management, Assistant Secretary for Water and Power, and Assistant Secretary for, I believe it is minerals.

Senator GRUENING. Minerals, oil, and gas.

Mr. ANDERSON. Oil and gas.

Senator GRUENING. According to your biographical sketch here, you seem to be superbly qualified for another assistant secretaryship, the one that has to do with fisheries and game. Your experience has been largely in that field, has it not?

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, Senator, I feel that I would possibly be qualified in that field. I do have some experience. However, I have long had a broad interest in the public resources of the Nation as well as our State. It is a field that has always interested me very much. I am not familiar with many of the details of the operations of the land management activities, but in general, this is a field that has always been interesting and challenging to me.

Senator GRUENING. The assistant secretaryship for which you have been nominated has among its responsibilities that of Indians. Have you had any experience with Indians?

Mr. ANDERSON. To a limited extent, sir, dealing with several of the Indian tribes on fishing matters in California.

However, I want to point out that we have not had the complications and the problems that the Northwest States have experienced on Indians as far as the fisheries are concerned. We have had some problems on the Klamath River.

Senator GRUENING. Have you had any experience with Eskimos?

Mr. ANDERSON. No, sir.

Senator GRUENING. Have you had any experience with national parks?

Mr. ANDERSON. National parks, sir?

Senator GRUENING. Yes.

Mr. ANDERSON. No; no operating experience; no, sir.

Senator GRUENING. And you haven't had much experience with land management?

Mr. ANDERSON. Not directly as a governmental operation, with the exception that lands were owned and operated by the State department of fish and game.

Senator GRUENING. Have you had any experience with railroad management?

Mr. ANDERSON. No, sir.

Senator GRUENING. One of the functions of this position to which you have been nominated is the Alaska Railroad.

Mr. ANDERSON. I appreciate that.

Senator GRUENING. Were you an executive of the California Fish and Game Commission in 1963?

Mr. ANDERSON. I have been the deputy director since 1960, sir.

Senator GRUENING. Are you familiar with a statement which was broadcast by the commission, urging that the Rampart Dam not be built?

Mr. ANDERSON. If I recall correctly, the commission—that is the policymaking board for the department—did take some type of action. I don't recall the details at this time.

Senator GRUENING. Were you aware of it at the time? This was a statement issued and broadcast with a lot of publicity, stating that the California Department of Fish and Game was inalterably opposed to the construction of the Rampart Canyon Dam on the Yukon River in Alaska, and I was just wondering why the California Department of Fish and Game should concern itself with the power development in another State.

Mr. ANDERSON. Well, sir, the concern had to do with the waterfowl and the Pacific flyway. Most of the ducks and geese which enter the Pacific flyway going into California originate in Alaska and Canada, and it was my understanding that it was for this reason the California Fish and Game Commission, as well as others interested in the wildlife of California, did take this position.

Senator GRUENING. Well, you were aware of the statement, then, at the time it was issued, were you?

Mr. ANDERSON. I recall the statement now; yes, sir.

Senator GRUENING. Did you play any part in drafting it?

Mr. ANDERSON. No, sir.

Senator GRUENING. You were merely aware of it. Were you aware that the statements made in this blast were largely incorrect?

Mr. ANDERSON. I don't recall the statement at this time, and if there was a misstatement of the facts, it was probably because they didn't have the correct facts to work from or that they were probably misinformed.

Senator GRUENING. Do you know whether the Department of Fish and Game of California consulted with any Alaskan authorities or with any of those concerned with this dam before issuing this blast?

Mr. ANDERSON. Not to my knowledge, sir.

Senator GRUENING. Would this action by the department of which you were an executive affect your thinking on the subject in the future?

Mr. ANDERSON. I would like to approach it with an open mind. I frankly do not know enough at this time about the feasibility of the Rampart Dam and the significance and impact it would have on the other public resources to express an opinion. It is my understanding a report is in preparation—or has been prepared, I have not seen it—by one of the Federal agencies.

Senator GRUENING. Well, the Department of the Interior is preparing its report on the feasibility of the dam and I suspect that the Assistant Secretary for Land Management might have some influence in the matter. Therefore, I would like to make sure that you had no preconception about this matter, and that you would be open minded in appraising the facts as they are brought out, and not be prejudiced by a statement that was made by this commission of which you are an executive, without any consultation of the authorities connected with the dam, or before any studies had been completed.

This blast took place in August of 1963. At that time the studies having to do with fish and game were merely in their infancy, and yet the Department of Fish and Game of California prejudged it, and declared and broadcast that it was inalterably opposed to the construction of the Rampart Canyon Dam on the Yukon River in Alaska.

How do you think the people of California would react if a group in Alaska came out and said it was inalterably opposed to some project in California? Do you think that would be well received?

Mr. ANDERSON. It would no doubt be disturbing in some circumstances.

Senator GRUENING. Wouldn't they consider they were going a little bit far afield in minding somebody else's business?

Mr. ANDERSON. I feel a point could be made in that direction; yes, sir.

Senator GRUENING. I have no further questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Jordan.

Senator JORDAN. Mr. Anderson, I like the forthright manner in which you have replied to the questions that have been propounded to you. This particular assistant secretaryship to which you have been nominated covers a broad spectrum of responsibilities. It has already been outlined pretty well.

I doubt in my own mind that unless someone had already served in this job that we could find a man in one lifetime who would have had experience in all of these categories that come under your responsibility.

I appreciate your answers to the questions to the effect that you will approach the problems with which you are not familiar with an open mind.

In my own State of Idaho there are some 12 million acres of unreserved public domain land under the Bureau of Land Management. There is also the controversy brewing there as to what is the highest use for that land—grazing, forestry, in some instances, mineral leasing desertland entries for parts of it which can receive water pumped from the river, and so on.

At the present time, we have out there a controversy that has generated a lot of heat. A year or so ago, a number of desertland entries were approved in my State, but they have since been withdrawn.

Obviously the people who had spent their money in making the entry and developing the land were put to a good deal of expense and this withdrawal is on appeal. Now as I understand it, as one of your duties, you would be an appeal officer for withdrawal of desertland entries of this nature. My question to you is, Have you any preconceived notions about whether the Federal Government should dispose of that land under the established law respecting desertland entries? Does the Federal Government need more land, or does it have about enough?

What is your idea about that? Would you care to address yourself to that?

Mr. ANDERSON. Senator, as I indicated earlier, I am not familiar with the details of this, and in the situation you have outlined I have a very limited background. However, before making any decision, I would certainly like to look at the facts completely, and, as I indicated earlier, I definitely want to keep an open mind until I do so. As far as regards the question of whether the Federal Government has enough land, or should dispose of land, I feel that the overall public interest is the thing we have to keep in mind. I feel that there are many legitimate uses of public lands. When people have used public land for some time, equities arise. I think we must deal with them equitably.

We have an expanding population. We have new demands; no doubt changing conditions and changing demands for these properties cause changes in the economy. It is a constant, live, and changing situation.

Senator JORDAN. There is a belief in any State, and I think it can be substantiated, that the Solicitor's Office runs the Department with respect to public land, over and above any directives from the Assistant Secretary. I would certainly hope that you would keep an open mind on this matter; that you would, if the occasion demanded, assert some control that would be inherent in the duties of your office in this respect.

It is a genuinely troublesome issue in any State, and I hope you will bear it in mind.

Another area of responsibility which you have has to do with cadastral engineering. I doubt that you have had much experience in cadastral engineering. Is that true?

Mr. ANDERSON. That is true. I have had no experience.

Senator JORDAN. It is very important. Many of the lands of the Western States are still unsurveyed. Up to several years ago, there were some 9 million acres in my own State that were still unsurveyed. There may have been some progress made in the past few years, but it is very important that we proceed with an orderly surveying program, and get this land platted.

Would you agree that that is an important objective?

Mr. ANDERSON. Sir, it appears to me, if we are going to manage these lands, we should at least know where the boundaries are and therefore, I should think surveys should move ahead.

Senator JORDAN. It is extremely important, and one of your responsibilities.

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

Senator JORDAN. No more questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Moss?

Senator Moss. Mr. Anderson, I am very glad to see you before this committee, and I look forward to working with you. I think we will have a very fine relationship.

Mr. ANDERSON. Thank you.

Senator Moss. My State of Utah is about 70 percent federally owned, and most of that land would be under your jurisdiction as the Assistant Secretary. We in Utah have tremendous interests in the management of the public domain. We have had some problems that have been of rather long standing.

When we attained statehood the State was granted four sections in every township for the public schools. We have been a State now for 70 years and we still have several hundred thousand acres we have never been able to get, because of various reasons, but in part because of the slowness of processing the State selections. On many of those lands, the precise section is no longer available because it has been preempted by the Federal Government for one reason or another. The State is entitled to select in lieu lands to replace those sections, but this has been a constant problem we have. Now I wonder if you have any familiarity with that problem?

I think California is probably very far advanced and probably you do not have many lands that have not been obtained under the selection process.

Mr. ANDERSON. Sir, I believe the California lands have all been taken up. I am not familiar with any selections that remain. This is something I would be glad to look into further, and also discuss at your convenience.

Senator MOSS. Well, I would appreciate your early attention. I would certainly like to have the feeling that you recognize that you not only have the responsibility to guard the interests of the Federal Government, and its proprietorship, but you have an equal responsibility to the States in which these lands lie to protect the States' rights. The relationship should not be an adversary proceeding, with you always lining up, as it were, against whatever the State proposed to do.

Your job is to be on both sides, to be fair and equitable and just, and above all, to try to get the problem resolved in the earliest possible time. I have felt that many times in the past the managers of the Federal domain have always lined up solidly on whatever they thought was the Federal side and were rather unwilling to listen to the State.

I don't say it is always on one side. Perhaps the State managers are a little bit biased on their side sometimes. But you must rise above that, if you are going to be the administrator, and see that the problem is resolved fairly and quickly. Is this in accord with your concept as to how you would operate as the Assistant Secretary?

Mr. ANDERSON. Senator, I have had State experience. Now I will begin an area of Federal responsibility and I would certainly like to bring the two together. We have one citizenry, and we have a responsibility to the people, if I may speak in a general way.

I appreciate that we have jurisdictional disputes. For example, we have had difference at times between the States and the counties. I also recognize that some times the States look to the Federal Government as being, oh, too overpowering. I will certainly try to be impartial.

Senator MOSS. I appreciate your response. It seems to me that a good administrator, rather than retreat behind the letter of the law—all too often, the letter of the law is used as an excuse for not proceeding—but a good administrator will exert his energies to find a way to go ahead and get done what needs to be done. The hiding-behind-the-book attitude has been my principal frustration in dealing with the managers of the public domain—this retreat behind the letter that says you can't do this and you can't do that, rather than finding a way to get something done.

With your attitude, I am sure we will get along all right, Mr. Anderson.

Mr. ANDERSON. Thank you, Senator.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Senator MOSS. Senator FANNIN?

Senator FANNIN. Mr. Anderson, I know that you have a very outstanding reputation in the fish and wildlife fields, and I was also very much impressed with your statements that you do favor multiple utilization of natural resources. I am just wondering if you will have considerable pressure from around the country, since you have been working with the fish and wildlife people from all over the Nation over the years, considerable pressure from them to accept their position, rather than to have an open mind.

Do you feel that pressure from such special interest groups is going to be a factor in your activities?

Mr. ANDERSON. Sir, I will definitely be openminded, and I would like to go on record here that I am not a captive of any group.

Senator FANNIN. Well, at the same time, you do have friends who have probably been in meetings throughout the years, both at the State level and at the national level, where these different problems have been discussed. I don't know that you have taken a particular stand on any particular problem that would be involved. I think you have said before that you are not committed in any respect, but do you feel that it will be difficult for you to work with some of these people, inasmuch as you have been, in many instances, on the other side of the fence?

Mr. ANDERSON. It is true I have many friends, acquaintances not only in California but other States, and in the Federal Government and organizations in the field of fish and game, as well as in the general field of recreation.

However, I do not feel that I would be unduly influenced, and I think I can keep my perspective on the broader front.

Senator FANNIN. And you feel that you can support multiple utilization?

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

Senator FANNIN. On the question of BLM lands, as you know, in many of the Western States, they are having problems concerning orderly disposal of lands surrounding cities and towns. Do you have any ideas in that regard, any thoughts as to what could be done to expedite these disposals, or to at least satisfy some of the needs that exist in areas surrounding towns and cities?

Mr. ANDERSON. Sir, it is my understanding that of the two or three relevant acts that passed the last session of Congress, one was for the disposal program, as well as the classification of lands. It is my understanding that the Department has been working on a classification program, and will soon have its findings completed. Under these acts, as I recall, the Congress calls for a policy of disposal of lands that should not be held, and the disposal, as I understand, would be to cities and counties and for residential and industrial uses, in the path of our expanding and growing communities, as well as isolated parcels.

This is a program that, it would appear to me, should move ahead.

Senator FANNIN. Well, fine, I am very pleased to have you make that statement. I do feel a great deal has been done as far as parks and recreation are concerned. At the same time, we still have the problem you mention of industrial needs, or need for housing. That still is a great problem, and I hope that you will have an open mind in this regard, but I realize the great need that exists, especially in some of the western areas.

Mr. ANDERSON. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you, Senator Fannin. Senator Burdick?

Senator BURDICK. In North Dakota we have four Indian reservations. The once proud Sioux are out of buffalo meat, and many of them are unemployed. Have you any ideas about Indians and Indian reservations?

Mr. ANDERSON. Sir, it is my understanding from what I have been able to gather over the years as well as from recent reading, that the Indian economy, or the Indian well-being, is a problem that has been with us a long, long time. I feel that everything within reason and possibility should be done to improve their economic well-being, and their educational opportunities, and the health improvement programs, so we can give them the same opportunities as the other citizenry of this country.

Senator BURDICK. Does that include job opportunities?

Mr. ANDERSON. I feel that is part of their economic well-being. Unless they have job opportunities, they are not going to be able to find their place in society.

Senator BURDICK. Thank you very much.

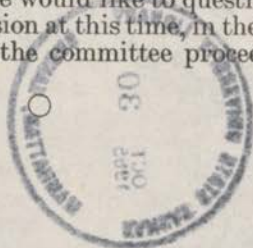
The CHAIRMAN. Thank you.

Any further questions of the nominee?

The committee will go into executive session briefly. The Chair wishes to announce that if it is agreeable, we will take up the formal vote on the nomination on the 19th, when we will have the next meeting of the full committee.

However, I think there are some matters in connection with the stockholdings of the nominee we would like to question. The committee will recess into executive session at this time, in the library.

(Whereupon, at 10:55 a.m., the committee proceeded in executive session.)



Mr. A. J. van der Merwe, who is my informant, has been reading over the views as well as from recent reading that the Indian economy or the Indian well-being is a problem that has been with us a long time. I feel that everything within reason and possibility should be done to improve their economic well-being and their educational opportunities, and the health improvement program, so we can give them the same opportunities as the other natives of this country.

Mr. A. J. van der Merwe, I feel that includes job opportunities. Mr. A. J. van der Merwe, I feel that is part of their economic well-being. I feel that they have job opportunities, they are not going to be able to

find a place in society. Mr. A. J. van der Merwe, I think you're right.

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