



9-1-1949

## Letter from Representative Burdick to Mrs. Albert N. Winge Regarding Land Condemnation, September 1, 1949

Usher L. Burdick  
*United States House of Representatives*

[How does access to this work benefit you? Let us know!](#)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/burdick-papers>

---

### Recommended Citation

Burdick, Usher L., "Letter from Representative Burdick to Mrs. Albert N. Winge Regarding Land Condemnation, September 1, 1949" (1949). *Usher Burdick Papers*. 520.  
<https://commons.und.edu/burdick-papers/520>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Elwyn B. Robinson Department of Special Collections at UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Usher Burdick Papers by an authorized administrator of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact [und.common@library.und.edu](mailto:und.common@library.und.edu).

September 1, 1919.

Mrs. Albert N. Winge,  
Van Hook, North Dakota.

Dear Mrs. Winge:

I was very happy to receive your good letter of August 24. First off, I want to tell you that I shall be pleased to attend your meeting in Van Hook after Congress adjourns.

At present, Congress is in recess, but I cannot find it possible to return to North Dakota at this time. After adjournment, however, Van Hook is the first place I want to go.

On this matter of land condemnation, I would suggest that the best way for you folks to combat the injustices of the army engineers is to refuse to sell your land. I do not believe that has been tried as yet. If the next landowner who is approached by the engineers refuses to sell, they will have to institute condemnation proceedings.

The condemnation will raise the question of just what authority the engineers have to buy the land. As I have shown in my brief on Garrison Dam, and pointed out in Congress, there is no existing authority for the Army Engineers to purchase land above the 1830 foot level.

If the question has been raised and the condemnation has been approved by a federal judge, I want to know about it. Please bear in mind that all these proceedings are unlawful and will not stand up in court, because the engineers are operating without authority from Congress.

I will be happy to hear from you further on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Usher L. Burdick, m.c.