

## **1906: Vernal Express, “A Gross Injustice”**

*The Vernal Express is a newspaper based in Vernal, UT, which is in the Uintah area.*

“The Strawberry reservoir project is beginning to attract serious attention on this side of the Wasatch mountain range. There is a general attitude among the people of Northeastern Utah that it holds gross injustice. People here support the government’s reclamation policy in general, but that does not mean they must give up their own rights to others who want something they have no moral right to. That is what they will let happen if we sit down calmly while the Strawberry reservoir scheme is carried out.

“Lots of land along the Duchesne valley is now barren, but will be developed within a few years if water is available. When that happens, homeseekers will have a sad awakening to the fact that the water rightfully belonging to them has been taken through the greed of the older portion of the state, along with the carelessness of the people here. We feel that it is our duty to sound a note of warning at this time before it's too late. To protect future settlers and the rising generation, action should be taken at once.

“Knowing the narrow, egotistical attitude that characterizes most of the Salt Lake press, we expect absolutely no help from them. It is up to the people of Northeastern Utah to move at once or give up opportunities that will be priceless in the future.”