"We must prepare ourselves to make every possible contact we can in behalf of the (Fryingpan) project through acquaintances in other sections of the country who may be able to contact their own congressmen and induce them to support the project on the basis of its merits . . .

"Don't give up. Keep your eye on that silver lining of Colorado unity in behalf of the Fryingpan project and the declared support by leaders of both political parties." (Editorial, Pueblo Chieftan, 3-18-62)

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CONGRESSIONAL COUNTDOWN ON THE FRY-ARK PROJECT has stopped momentarily.

House Rules Committee heard 90-minutes of testimony on March 8 in support of Navajo-San Juan-Chama project authorization. But before the committee could complete its hearing on New Mexico's projects and turn to Colorado's Fryingpan-Arkansas project, it had to switch to higher priority business.

It's going to be rough sledding on the House floor. Comments at the brief Rules Committee hearing on N-SJ-C provides an indication of what lies ahead. Rules chairman Smith of Virginia asked about crop surpluses. He doubted the wisdom of "moving water from the west side of the mountain to the east side of the mountain when the Lord never intended it to be so". Rep. Brown of Ohio asked about the "gimmick" of no repayment of interest on irrigation projects. Rep. Saylor of Pennsylvania told the Rules Committee that he could support only one "Rube Goldberg of the Rockies" (Navajo-San Juan-Chama diversion yes, Fry-Ark no). Saylor called the Colorado the "greatest overworked river in America" and said we are close to exhausting its supply.
Crop Surpluses are continuing to muddy reclamation project authorization waters. Senate Interior Committee Chairman Anderson of New Mexico recently asked Agriculture Secretary Freeman to clarify his recent crop surplus statements which "are being misinterpreted in some quarters to mean that there is no need for further irrigation of land in the United States, at least until sometime after the year 1980." Freeman's reply seems less than encouraging to the reclamation West.

Secretary Freeman: "The interpretations made in your letter of February 5 ... are substantially correct. It is the view of this Department that resource policy should provide for the orderly improvement of cropland through carefully selected irrigation, drainage, flood protection, watershed and other conservation measures along with adjustment activities as needed for reducing the total acreage devoted to crop production . . .

"The acreage under irrigation is expected to increase by 9.4 million acres (by 1980). Although irrigation development would bring in some new cropland, most such development would involve the provision of water to existing cropland. Based upon current rates of use of water per acre, the total amount of water withdrawn for irrigation would be up by 28 percent by 1980. This increase in use could largely be offset by improvements in efficiency of water use if we intensified our efforts to get farmers to adopt better irrigation practices."

When the countdown resumes, Fry-Ark's backers will have to pull out all stops for the last stretch drive towards congressional authorization. Colorado's Wayne Aspinall, House Interior Committee chairman, predicts that both Navajo-San Juan-Chama and the Fryingpan face a very rough fight.

Aspinall: "We have gotten some bad breaks. If we get the Fryingpan through the House, we will get it through for one reason only: no reclamation projects have been authorized in this Congress. I shall pull out all stops this year to get favorable action on the Fryingpan."
THE MEXICAN SALTY WATER DISPUTE is headed for a showdown. The problem has reached the highest diplomatic levels. President Kennedy and Mexican President Mateos have instructed their representatives on the International Boundary and Water Commission to recommend within 45 days "mutually satisfactory" steps to be taken. The two governments will "agree upon and actually put into operation remedial measures within the shortest possible time."

Proposed emergency solution: Release extra water from Hoover Dam. Divert it into the All-American Canal above the point where salty Gila River enters the Colorado. Pump from the All-American Canal below Pilot Knob powerplant into Mexico's Alamo Canal and deliver good quality water to the Mexicali Valley . . . Proposed permanent solution: Construct a canal to carry salty Gila water direct to the Gulf of California, without allowing it to enter the Colorado River. These are Mexican proposals. Both would require U.S. water deliveries in excess of treaty obligations. Over a fourth of this extra water might have to be furnished by Colorado.

Colorado is doing what it can to prevent further raids on its dwindling Colorado River water supply. Leonard Kuiper, acting director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, has been discussing the salty water problem with Colorado's congressional delegation. Kuiper, William H. Nelson (CWCB member), Phil Smith (Colorado River Water Conservation Board secretary-engineer) and John Barnard, Sr. (CRWCB attorney) will attend a meeting on the salty water dispute at Yuma on March 29. Barnard has prepared a long list of questions about legal, political, technical and international aspects of the problem. Time limitations may cut discussion short.
COLORADO WATER PEOPLE: Frederick A. Mark of Spokane, Washington, is Colorado's new state conservationist. Mark replaces Kenneth W. Chalmers, who has retired. Dr. Edward L. Clark, Colorado's director of natural resources, died suddenly at age 54. Ed Clark was just beginning to make real progress in one of the state's most difficult jobs.

Governor McNichols: "Through Ed Clark's forthright leadership, vast knowledge and his capacity for objective and decisive action, Colorado has made phenomenal gains in developing and utilizing our great natural wealth.

"Ed Clark faced every issue squarely with prompt, objective and positive action. Whether the problem involved our water, mineral, forest, recreation or wildlife resources, Ed came up with the right answer. He was quiet and deliberate, but never hesitated to speak up loud and clear when any of Colorado's resources were threatened."

COLORADO WATER CONGRESS ACTIVITIES: Division II annual meeting at Loveland on March 15 was highly successful. Over 90 water users attended. Program included a panel discussion on Cache la Poudre Valley development plans by Wm. D. Farr, Jack A. Harvey, Harvey Johnson and J. Ben Nix. Also a panel discussion on South Platte River development plans by David Hamil, Cecil Osborne, David Miller and W. R. Kiernes. John R. Clayton, Greeley attorney, discussed recodification of Colorado's water laws.

Carl M. Mossberg, past rules committee man, chaired the meeting and made most of the arrangements. . . . Division II water users have elected a new rules committeeman: Harlan Seaworth of Wellington, president of the North Poudre Irrigation District.

Colorado Water Congress annual meeting last fall was given prominent coverage in nationally circulated Irrigation Engineering and Maintenance magazine (12/61) . . . Widefield School District in Colorado Springs is
interested in using your Water Congress Newsletter as supplementary re-
source material for social studies and science classes . . . New Water
Congress sustaining members: Weld County, Prowers County, Montrose
County Chamber of Commerce, City of Greeley, City of Delta, City of
Montrose, Ripple & Howe (Consulting Engineers, Denver) . . . Over 60
persons have been added to Water Congress rolls since the first of the
year through individual or sustaining memberships . . . L. Richard
Bratton, Gunnison attorney, has been named Water Congress rules com-
mitteeman for the Gunnison River district.

IRRIGATION DISTRICTS: Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District's
24th annual report, just released, has a best-in-the-West look. Its 82
pages are loaded with interesting water user information presented in
attractive style. NCWCD's net operating losses amounted to only 1.43%
of the 300,000 acre feet handled in 1961. Losses were minimized by
unusual 1961 weather which was described "Spring too dry, early summer
too cold, late summer too wet." Big accomplishment during 1961 was final
agreement with Secretary of Interior on a permanent schedule for
Granby Reservoir fish water releases. Temporary schedule had been in
effect for ten years. Permanent schedule has a unique shortage sharing
provision whereby fish water releases are varied from month to month
during the April-October period in proportion to variations of reservoir
inflow. Criteria change will save the project system from 4,000 to 10,000
acre feet a year. NCWCD started its basic 40-year repayment period for
irrigation features of the Colorado-Big Thompson Project on January 1, 1962,
following 24 years of operation under supplemental contracts.
Eagle Water Conservancy District creation is proposed in a petition filed this month in district court at Eagle. District would include all of Eagle County and small sections of Pitkin, Garfield and Routt counties. It would seek Bureau of Reclamation studies for several proposed projects. De Beque and Grand Valley area residents have decided to proceed with formation of a water conservancy district to sponsor USBR's proposed Bluestone Project. Hearing for proposed creation of Battlement Mesa Water Conservancy District has been set for May 7 in district court at Grand Junction. It will sponsor USBR's Battlement Mesa Project in the Plateau Valley. Commendable cooperation between water agencies recently put an important Western Slope canal back in service ahead of schedule.

Grand Junction Sentinel: "Completion of the major part of the Orchard Mesa Power Canal and Siphon and the new outlet to Tunnel No. 3 of the High Line Canal ahead of schedule is the result of commendable cooperation and coordination among federal, state and local organizations and private enterprise . . .

"Colorado Dep't of Highways, Bureau of Reclamation, Public Service Co. of Colorado, Grand Valley Water Users Assn., Orchard Mesa Irrigation District, Palisade Irrigation District, and Mesa County Irrigation District worked together. They resolved problems involved in removing a large chunk of the De Beque Canyon wall, tearing out old siphon, flume, and tunnel structures, and building new replacement sections.

"The cooperation made possible a minimum shutdown of the Cameo thermal electric generation plant. The 44,000 kilowatt unit depends entirely upon the canal for cooling water."

WATER PROJECTS: Blue Mesa Dam construction will get underway soon on the Gunnison River, 25 miles downstream from Gunnison. It's the first of probably three dams in the Curecanti Unit of the Colorado River Storage Project. Size: 340-ft. high, 414,000 acre feet storage,
60,000 kw powerplant... Animas-La Plata Project feasibility report (southwestern Colorado) is being revised following preliminary review. A-LP's economic analysis is based upon the Garrison formula which takes into consideration potential economic benefits of changes in crops and irrigation practices that would be possible after the project is built... Bostwick Park Project is awaiting congressional authorization. Interesting feature: BP's Silver Jack Reservoir on the headwaters of Cimarron Creek (Uncompahgre Valley) is the first reservoir in which an allocation of water (1500 acre feet) has been made specifically for fish.

COLORADO CITIES AND TOWNS: OSO Satellite (Orbiting Solar Observatory) launched recently at Cape Canaveral was built in Boulder by the Ball Brothers fruit jar firm. Article by Ralph C. Taylor in Pueblo Chieftan (12/3/61) described another little known Ball Brothers venture in Colorado. They completed a project in about 1907 to deliver 6 million gallons of water a day to Pueblo from Fountain River underflow. Pueblo rejected the water as "unfit for human use" and Ball Bros. lost $600,000. Two empty concrete reservoirs (combined capacity 40 million gallons) stand today north of Pueblo as decaying monuments to a great pioneering family. They are "the only containers built by Ball Brothers that could not be used."

Grand Junction's annual water and sewer report received wide distribution when it was published as paid advertisement in a supplement to the Daily Sentinel (3-6-62)... Nucla officials vetoed a proposed $125,000 water system improvement plan. Citizen's group said the project would be too expensive and wouldn't deal with the basic cause of the town's chronic water shortages... Delta has placed operational control of
two of its reservoirs (Battlement and Basin) in the hands of Grand Mesa

Water Users Assn. . . . Federal grants to Colorado communities for sewage
treatment projects since 1956 totaled nearly $4 million for 56 projects
costing $13.7 million. Grants pending: $3.3 million for Colorado.

WATER RESEARCH: "Progress Report of Clay Sealing Investigations
During 1961" by R. D. Dirmeyer, Jr. of Colorado State University has been
prepared for Colorado Water Conservation Board. It summarizes research
and development work on use of Colorado clays for sealing irrigation canals
and reservoirs. Dirmeyer estimates that canal and reservoir seepage losses
in Colorado amount to 2.5 million acre feet per year, or 25% of annual
irrigation diversions. Dirmeyer sees a trend toward increasing seepage
losses due to elimination of sediment and mud from irrigation diversions.

Sewage is also a seepage factor. Foaming waters loaded with detergents
seem to seep faster than non-foaming water.

Watershed research by U.S. Forest Service is underway in the White
River National Forest on the Western Slope. Forest Supervisor
E. H. Mason's annual report describes this research and notes that "A trend
of major importance to owners and managers of wild lands become especially
significant on the White River National Forest during 1961." The trend:
Increasing demand for water to meet the needs of an expanding population
. . . Colorado U is planning a $10 million engineering sciences center . . .
Foothills Research Campus being built by Colorado State U near Horsetooth
Reservoir, west of Fort Collins, includes an extensive tract for creation
of an industrial research park for private research labs.
Colorado Game & Fish Dep't research includes studies aimed at finding species of fish new to Colorado that can adapt better than the natives to conditions imposed by fluctuating reservoirs. The department has been cooperating with USBR in researching sonic fish screens at Willow Creek Reservoir (Colorado-Big Thompson Project near Granby). Objective is to frighten trout away from destruction in the pumps by use of an underwater electric sound generator.

Colorado Game & Fish Dep't: "Are we running low on research problems? Hardly. They are popping up like mushrooms. How do we provide fishing behind Dillion Dam? How do we maintain fishing in the Blue River after Denver takes out the water? What will the Curecanti project do to the Gunnison? How can we maintain the Trappers Lake cutthroat? How about another Lake John (new fishing lake constructed in North Park) -- preferably between Denver and Colorado Springs? Develop a bigger kokanee? How about a lung fish for dry streams?"

"What is fishery research doing for better fishing? Well, all of the above and more--the job gets bigger and tougher as the fisherman multiply." (Colorado Outdoors, March-April 1962)

Recent U.S. Geological Survey reports for CWCB: "Basic Data Report No. 7 -- Radiochemical Analyses of Ground and Surface Water in Colorado, 1954-61." Quality of water data are presented for 141 groundwater and 216 surface water sampling points. Also: "Basic Data Report No. 9 -- Records and Logs of Selected Wells and Test Holes, and Chemical Analyses of Ground Water in the South Platte River Basin in Western Adams and Southwestern Weld Counties, Colorado." . . . Oil shale research has been budget-cut by House Appropriations Committee. Down the congressional drain: Plans developed last year to help Brazil develop its extensive oil shale beds.
COLORADO WATER ROUNDP: Crown Zellerbach Corp. has deferred plans for a $30 million newsprint mill near Kremmling for economic reason. The corporation had been negotiating with the Bureau of Reclamation for purchase of water stored in Green Mountain Reservoir. Lake Granby is being drawn down to provide space for storage of an anticipated big spring runoff and to minimize use of spillway. Releases have been increased to outlet capacity (430 SF). Georgetown Dam rebuilding received an unsought $100,000 appropriations from the Colorado legislature. Failure of Georgetown Dam in 1956 resulted in $87,000 damage claims and $50,000 federal flood relief. Mine tailings make the lake unsuited for fish. Gov. McNichols: "We're going to find out what's wrong up there, and if we can't build the thing right we won't build it at all."

Conservation Center of North America established recently at Denver Public Library is attracting widespread national interest as a leading repository for accumulation of materials on natural resources and conservation. Nineteen private libraries have been received; 35 more have been promised. Dismissal of a state irrigation division engineer (Fred Paddock of Montrose) is being sought by the towns of Cedaredge and Orchard City, the Upper Surface Creek Domestic Water Users Assn., the Paonia Ditch Co. and the Cross Bar Cattle Co. of Whitewater. Complaint to Civil Service Commission charges incompetency and failure to maintain harmonious relations with the public. "Water Pollution" is an excellent feature article by Roscoe and W. N. Fleming in Denver Post's Empire Magazine for March 18 and 25.
in Colorado and the West. Recently, two feature articles by Fleming on water pollution appeared in Denver Post's Empire Magazine. . . . **Bert Hanna**, veteran Denver Post reporter, has been given a national honorable mention award for his general coverage during 1961 of energy and other natural resources. . . .

**Kenneth W. Chalmers** died suddenly of heart disease on April 16 at age 63. Chalmers was deeply interested in Colorado water problems. He will be missed by the water people of Colorado. Shortly before his death Chalmers sounded a warning to agricultural users of water in his keynote talk during the annual meeting in Denver of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts.

*Colorado Rancher and Farmer:* "The retired state conservationist (Chalmers) pointed out that the demand for municipal, industrial and irrigation water has in the past decade increased by leaps and bounds.

"As demands for agricultural water continue to increase, those individuals, companies and corporations who are putting their water to the most beneficial use will be the ones who will be hurt the least. Those who persist in following archaic methods of irrigation will find it difficult to adjust to a modern program, Chalmers added.

"He noted that the same principles apply to municipal and industrial water use, and to the development of underground resources. The day will come, he said, when it will be necessary to allocate specific amounts of water to agriculture. Irrigated farming cannot compete financially with industry and municipalities in acquiring and maintaining water resources.

"Chalmers reported that in 1961 more than a million linear feet of small ditches were lined to reduce seepage loss. But this, he said, is only the beginning. He stressed that every avenue of water conservation--from location of small stock ponds to large watershed projects--must be explored and implemented within bounds of state statutory provisions so as to stretch and preserve our precious water supplies."
COLORADO CITIES AND TOWNS: Ridgway, on the Uncompahgre River in Ouray County, is laying plans for moving its townsite. When water is stored behind the proposed Ridgway Dam of the Bureau of Reclamation's Dallas Creek project, it will cover the present townsite . . . Del Norte is considering fluoridation of its water supply in order to reduce tooth decay . . . Grand Junction will vote April 27 on a $115,000 bond issue for construction of a downtown storm sewer system . . . Orchard Mesa, suburb of Grand Junction, has "intolerable" sewage problems. "Situation must be corrected" letters have been sent to offenders by Mesa County Health Dep't.

Menoken area north of Montrose has a new $250,000 domestic water system. Menoken Water Co. recently began delivery to 137 families in an area formerly served by wells and long water hauls. Project financing: $250 cash contribution by each family and a $230,000 federal loan from the Farmers Home Administration, to be repaid over a 40-year period . . . Canyon City city council has ruled that residents, not the city, are responsible for keeping ditches free of obstruction on and in front of their property.

Thornton, Denver suburb, is studying the feasibility of purchasing the Northwest Utilities Company. Northwest Utilities and Western Hills Utility Co, Colorado's only privately owned water and sewer service utility combine, recently launched a $2.8 million expansion program to meet the water demands of the fast-growing Adams County suburban area. The two firms are subsidiaries of a Philadelphia-based holding company.
Arvada is considering increasing its water rates 20 percent for inside city users and 50 percent for outside city users . . . Westminster will receive a $19,200 federal grant to aid in purchase of a 120-acre park and recreation area which includes several lakes. This is the third grant approved under the open space land program authorized last year by Congress.

Pueblo's $6 million water bond issue was decisively defeated in a special election on April 10. Bond money would have been used for distribution system improvements. Defeat was credited to "mushrooming local and state taxes and public ignorance of what was at stake" (Pueblo Chieftan). Citizens have complained that sufficient information about Pueblo water problems is not being given to the public . . . "Water Yes--Mud No!" That's the way Glenwood Springs Sage headlined its completion date announcement for the city's new microstrainer filtration system . . . Delta has had muddy drinking water recently due to a temporary operational condition, but the water is reported to be perfectly safe . . . Lamar charter convention delegates have voted to include an autonomous utility board in the city's charter. The convention's utility committee recommended a provision that utility rates outside the city must never be higher than inside the city.

TRANSMOUNTAIN DIVERSION PROJECT proposed by Elliott Four Counties Ditch Association will be opposed by Colorado River Water Conservation District. Project plan developed by John Elliott, Denver engineer, proposes to transport Yampa River diversions to eastern
Colorado by means of water exchanges and a water wheeling arrangement with the Colorado-Big Thompson project. **Interesting questions:** Is the proposed C-BT wheeling in violation of a 1959 Colorado Water Conservation Board resolution which provides that CWCB will not approve any further federally financed transmountain diversion projects until the needs of western Colorado are determined and projected? If in violation, is CWCB approval necessary in this case?

**WATER LITIGATION:** Water District 42 records are likely to be purged of all conditional decrees on which diligence testimony has not been presented. **Purgers:** Judge George V. Kempf and Judge E. L. Dutcher. Kempf recently signed an order establishing ground rules for presentation of evidence. Order stated that claimants with conditional decrees may appear in court during the current spring term which ends in October. Chief Justice Hall of the **Colorado Supreme Court**, in the recent Eagle River decision, declared that courts should cancel conditional decrees if water users failed to show reasonable diligence in putting their water to use. Questions have been raised about how this principle would be implemented.

**Grand Junction Sentinel:** "Neither the Hall decision nor the Colorado water law quoted by Hall says anything about how far a judge should go in bringing water users into court. A number of unanswered questions remain.

"Should a judge go through court records and cancel decrees of those who fail to show up on schedule?"
"Should he issue orders to the sheriff of the county in which the court is located to serve notice to all holders of conditional decrees to appear in court? ... 

"If appearance is entirely the responsibility of the water user, the judge having no responsibility other than to hear the presentation of testimony of those who do show up, what procedure exists to force water users to appear in court? ... 

"Should a judge go through the court records and send notices to all water users holding conditional decrees to appear?

"In short, does the Hall decision make a water policeman as well as judge out of the district judge?" (1-22-62).

A new Colorado Supreme Court rule permits a water user to appeal a court order continuing a conditional water decree from the district court to the state Supreme Court. The only order that could be appealed previously was an order which cancelled a decree ... 

Water District 43 adjudication proceedings in district court for Rio Blanco County have been continued to June 11. Protest testimony to claims of the proposed Sweetwater hydro-electric project is anticipated ... Eagle Water Conservancy District hearing on April 23 in Eagle is expected to draw opposition from Garfield County residents who would be taxed even though they are outside of the Eagle River drainage. Rio Grande Railroad has filed a protest ... 

Northwest Water District, north of Westminster, has dropped attempts to obtain confirmation by Adams County District Court of a $2.5 million bond issue which it voted last year by a 3 to 0 vote ... Alameda Water and Sanitation District in Jefferson County is defendant in a $33,000 damage suit over delay in a promised sewer facility installation ... 

Orchard Mesa Irrigation District and Grand Valley Water Users Assn
have filed suit against a water user who allegedly has been pumping water from the district's canal without authorization.

**Grand Junction** is defendant in a $160,000 suit over sewage odors. Irate citizens seek damages for "pain, irritation, suffering, anxiety, nausea and loss of companionship" allegedly caused by the "noisome stench" of GJ's sewage disposal plant . . . Four **Arvada** residents have charged the city with negligence and $18,000 damages for permitting an overloaded sewer line to back up into their homes . . .

**Pueblo Water Board** is defendant in a $50,000 suit by a man who said he fell in an uncovered water meter hole and injured his foot.

**IT'S IMPOSSIBLE** to have efficient and equitable management of artesian ground water reservoirs in Colorado under present water laws. That's the conclusion of Edward A. Moulder, District Engineer, U.S. Geological Survey, in a report prepared in cooperation with the Colorado Water Conservation Board. **Moulder's warning:** Strict application of Colorado's present water doctrine will substantially limit development of the state's underground resources.

**Moulder's solution:** Modify Colorado water law to allow issuance of water permits that set limitations on time, withdrawal rates, and pumping lifts. **Limits** would be based on technical and economic studies of the areas in question. Send 25 cents (mailing charge) to **CWCB**, State Services Bldg., Denver 3, for a copy of "Legal and Management Problems Related to the Development of an Artesian Ground Water Reservoir."