"Every city and town in Colorado should initiate a program of developing water projects as rapidly as possible. They will never be purchased or built any cheaper; and no better investment for the future can be made." (William Eakes, District Judge, Durango)

WATER GROUPS CONDITIONALLY APPROVE CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT

THE COLORADO WATER CONGRESS, the Colorado Water Conservation Board and the Upper Colorado River Commission gave tacit approval to the proposed Central Arizona Project on the Lower Colorado River subject to reservations. Action by the Colorado Water Congress was taken at a breakfast meeting on August 11, and by the Colorado Water Conservation Board that afternoon. Both meetings were in Denver. The upper Colorado River Commission approved the action of the Colorado Water Conservation Board at a meeting in Salt Lake City on August 16. All resolutions contained provisions urging congress to include Upper Basin protection in authorizing legislation which has been introduced as H.R. 4671.

The resolution adopted by the Executive Committee of the Colorado Water Congress and approved by the Rules Committee by mail ballot states:

It is the considered judgement of the Colorado Water Congress that the greatest protection for the water users of the State of Colorado and of the Upper Colorado River Basin can be achieved by embodying specific requirements
within federal legislation which would authorize construction of any project within the Lower Colorado River Basin the operation of which would affect Upper Basin deliveries at Lee Ferry.

1. Operation of Federal Projects within the Lower Colorado River Basin shall be so conducted that deliveries of water to the Lower Basin, measured at Lee Ferry, Arizona, shall never exceed 7.5 million acre-feet each year or 75 million acre-feet for any period of 10 consecutive years reckoned in continuing progressive series.

2. With the authorization of a project within the Lower Basin which would affect Lee Ferry deliveries, there must be simultaneous authorization of a project or projects for importation of water to the Colorado River Basin in such quantities as will

(a) guarantee to the Upper Basin, by exchange or otherwise, the consumptive use of 7.5 million acre-feet per year in accord with Article III(a) of the Colorado River Compact.

(b) supply to the Lower Basin the consumptive use of 7.5 million acre-feet per year in accord with Article III(a) of the Colorado River Compact and, in addition, supply sufficient water for such projects as may be authorized for construction and operation within the Lower Colorado River Basin.

(c) supply sufficient water to meet, in full, the obligations of the United States to deliver Colorado River water under the Mexican Treaty.

The opening kickoff at the Colorado Water Conservation Board meeting was presented by former governor Ed. C. Johnson, now Colorado's representative on the Upper Colorado River Commission. "Colorado has been kicked around long enough on water matters; we have been too timid, and it is now time that we stand up and talk resolutely -- straight from the shoulder", Johnson said. He emphasized "if we do not get
guarantees in the project authorization which definitely provide that the Upper Basin does not have to deliver more than 75 million acre-feet of water over the 10-year period past Lee Ferry as provided by the Colorado River Compact, we are in grave danger.”

Johnson’s statements were made in relation to a report by Tipton and Kalmbach, Denver Engineers, showing that there is not enough water in the Colorado River to support the Central Arizona Project. The report, based on an analysis of 34 operation studies, stated in part:

- Based on the recorded historic flow of the Colorado River, it appears nature has decreed that the river will not supply enough water to support the apportionment made by the Colorado River Compact to the Upper Basin; an amount of 7.5 million acre-feet for annual consumptive-use from the main river to the states of Arizona, California and Nevada; and the allocation to Mexico by the Mexican Water Treaty of 1944.

- With the active storage capacity available to the Upper Basin, including the reservoirs of the Upper Colorado Storage Project now operating or under construction, beneficial consumptive-use by the Upper Basin (depletion at Lee Ferry), including reservoir evaporation, is limited to 6.3 million acre-feet average per year, because of the required delivery in successive 10-year periods of 75.0 million acre-feet in accordance with the terms of the Compact. The net depletion, excluding reservoir evaporation, would be 5.6 million acre-feet.

- Simple arithmetic indicates that there will not be enough water on the lower river to sustain a delivery of 7.5 million acre-feet for the states of Arizona, California and Nevada, and to take care of the Mexican burden, as shown by the following analysis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lower River Requirements</th>
<th>10.540 Million A.F.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower River Water Supply</td>
<td>9.345 &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficiency</td>
<td>1.195 &quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The obvious conclusion is that a firm supply is not available in the Colorado River to satisfy a basic beneficial consumptive-use
requirement of 7.5 million acre-feet from the main stem by Arizona, California and Nevada, plus delivery of 1.5 million acre-feet of water to Mexico. If these requirements as well as upper basin are to be satisfied, projects must be authorized and constructed to import major amounts of water into the Colorado River Basin from sources of surplus. Such importation is important to both upper and lower basins.

Finally, it would be fair to conclude that the authorization of projects in the Lower Colorado River Basin which would utilize substantial additional quantities of water, would be unwise at this time, unless at the same time a project, or projects, for the importation of substantial amounts of water from sources of surplus are authorized.

Governor Johnson concluded by urging the Board to press for action to include in the bill provisions for substantial imports of outside water into the Colorado, provisions guaranteeing that the Upper Basin be required to deliver not more than 75.0 million acre-feet at Lee Ferry during any 10 consecutive years, and to work for the completion of the Upper Colorado River storage program.

Felix L. Sparks, director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, briefed the Board on the proposed Central Arizona Project legislation and reported on proposed amendments to the bill which were prepared by the Board's staff and the Engineering Committee of the Upper Colorado River Commission designed to protect the rights of the Upper Basin. In his briefing, Sparks called the river "bankrupt".

The Colorado Water Conservation Board resolved to approve the Central Arizona Project (included in H.R. 4671) provided that principles expressed in the revisions as submitted by the staff be included in the authorizing legislation with special emphasis on:
- A guarantee which would insure that the Upper Basin would not be required to deliver more than 75 million acre-feet of water in any 10-year period to the Lower Basin.

- Require the concurrent development of a plan to authorize the importation of at least 2.5 million acre-feet of water into the Colorado River Basin annually.

- A requirement that the Secretary of Interior discontinue his present attempts to operate Glen Canyon in violation of the Colorado River Compact to maintain a power head at Hoover Dam.

- Use imported water to meet obligations of the Mexican Treaty of 1944 and to meet deficiencies in the Lower Basin.

- Supply the Upper Basin with exchange water to meet deficiencies.

- Reimburse Upper Basin fund for payments made to meet power deficiencies at Hoover Dam.

Action taken by the Colorado River Commission at its Salt Lake City meeting endorsed the resolution as adopted by the Colorado Water Conservation Board concerning the Central Arizona Project. Ival Goslin, Commission Director, said "the resolution gives plenty of leeway to negotiate with Lower Basin States to create a unified seven-state approach for the development of a Lower Colorado River Storage Project."

SENATE UNIT OK'S $62.9 MILLION FOR COLORADO

THE WASHINGTON BUREAU of the Rocky Mountain News reports that the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 19, approved $62.9 million for reclamation and flood control projects in Colorado during 1966. This compares with $49.5 million appropriated for the State in the fiscal year 1965. It includes about $766,000 above administration requests for studies of vital flood control projects and needs on the South Platte, Arkansas and St. Vrain Rivers. This amount was added by Senator Gordon Allott (R.-Colo), a member of the committee.
The committee approved $15.9 million for the Curecanti Project, $10 million for the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project, $9.9 million for the San Juan-Chama Project and $2.2 million for the Silt Project. Allott was able to add $1,032,000 to the Army Corps of Engineers for work on the Trinidad Reservoir.

Among the major flood control additions to the budget were funds totaling $300,000 for completion of feasibility and design studies on the Chatfield Dam, a proposed flood control project on the South Platte River above Denver. Allott also succeeded in getting $55,000 approved for a reconnaissance study of the St. Vrain River and $30,000 for a general investigation of the Arkansas by the Corps of Engineers. The Budget approval included $67,000 for research in the South Platte River Basin and $181,000 to complete studies of needs above and below John Martin Dam on the Arkansas River.

The Senate Committee also approved 1966 funds for Orchard Mesa, $71,000; Bostwick Park, $350,000 and it agreed to a $150,000 appropriation for a study on the Savery-Pothook Project.

FLOOD CONTROL UNIT FORMED IN ARKANSAS BASIN

A GROUP of Mayors, city engineers, Chamber of Commerce officials, state and federal agencies, private concerns, public health, irrigation interests, highways and railroads, meeting in LaJunta, Colorado, July 14, resulted in the formation of the Arkansas River Basin Flood Control Committee. The main objective of the Committee is to initiate a campaign to plan needed flood control measures for the Arkansas Valley.
The first action of the group was to adopt a resolution urging "immediate authorization and funds be provided the U.S. Corps of Engineers, the Soil Conservation Service and the Bureau of Reclamation to survey and plan appropriate flood control measures for the Arkansas River Basin in Colorado." A copy of the resolution was sent to Colorado's congressional delegation.

Charles H. Boustead, general manager of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District, was elected chairman of the group. Charles Williams of LaJunta was elected vice-chairman and Clifford Hart of Holly, secretary-treasurer.

CLAY CREEK DAM ISSUE SETTLED

PENDING LITIGATION calling for injunctive action brought before the U.S. Supreme Court by the State of Kansas against Colorado over the construction of a dam on Clay Creek by the Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department was settled at a special meeting of the Arkansas River Compact Commission in Lamar, Colorado on July 23. The settlement included an agreement by Colorado that when the dam, washed out by the June floods, is rebuilt, the size of the spillway will be doubled and the outlet pipe will be increased from 4 to 8 feet in diameter.

The agreement also provides that future operation of the dam and reservoir be placed under the supervision of the Compact:

When releases from John Martin Reservoir are being made out of the conservation pool, no water will be stored at Clay Creek Reservoir until Kansas gets its share of John Martin water. (40 percent),
When operating out of river priority no water will be stored in Clay Creek Reservoir until the flow of the Arkansas River at the Colorado-Kansas line is 1150 cubic feet per second or greater.

At the Compact meeting Kansas abstained from voting for or against the proposed legislation to create a 10,000 acre-feet fish and wildlife and recreation conservation pool at John Martin Reservoir.

WATER PLANNING ACT NOW LAW

PRESIDENT JOHNSON, on July 22, signed the Water Resources Planning Act which provides that it is declared to be the policy of Congress to encourage the conservation, development and utilization of water and related land resources of the United States on a comprehensive and coordinated basis.

The Act creates a Water Resources Council composed of the Secretaries of Interior, Agriculture, Army, Health, Education and Welfare, and the Chairman of the Federal Power Commission. The Chairman of the Council is to be designated by the President. Under the provision of the Act the President is authorized to establish a river basin Commission upon request by the Council or by a state and upon concurrence by not less than one-half of the states involved. In case the Upper Colorado Commission is involved, three of the four states must concur. Each Commission shall be composed of a chairman appointed by the President, one member of each federal agency involved, one member representing the Interstate Compact involved, and one member appointed by the Governor of each state involved.
The Act authorized the appropriation of $5 million a year for 10 years for grants to the states to assist them in developing and participating in comprehensive water and land resource plans. This appropriation is to be available to the states on a 50-50 matching basis.

The Act specifies that nothing shall be construed to expand or diminish federal or state jurisdiction, responsibility or rights in the fields of water control. A conference amendment specifies that nothing shall be construed as authorizing any entity acting under the provisions of the Act to study, plan, or recommend the transfer of waters between areas under the jurisdiction of more than one river basin commission. This provision means that special legislation must be passed to study and authorize federal projects where water is imported from one river basin to another.

**ITEMS IN BRIEF**

The Colorado Ground Water Commission at its meeting in Denver on August 6, recommended that the state engineer regulate well drilling in the San Luis Valley under provisions that well applications for new lands not be approved, and that applications be approved for replacement or supplemental use to existing wells only.

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Representative Wayne N. Aspinall (D-Colo.) reports that House members of the Colorado Congressional Delegation have introduced legislation which would improve the existing Federal disaster program by equalizing the assistance available for all disaster stricken areas. Besides shoring up assistance to the public sector, this new general legislation would help to meet the needs of the individual better than has been the case in the past. Suggested provisions: - 100 percent relief for reconstructing federal highways; and pre-disaster restoration for individuals.

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On July 1, 1965, Major General William F. Cassidy was promoted to Lieutenant General and named Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army. General
Cassidy replaced Lieutenant General Walter K. Wilson who retired on the same date.

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Nevada is pushing for the Southern Nevada Project. It hopes to get under the wire before the battle over the passage of the Central Arizona Project. The project would pump water out of Lake Mead and take it to the Las Vegas area for municipal and industrial uses. Nevada is allocated 300,000 acre-feet annually out of the lower Colorado. Hearings were held on the project during the week of July 26. Cost -- $49 million.

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Delegates from 58 of the world nations will meet in Washington, D.C. at the Sheraton-Park Hotel on October 3 through October 9 for the first International Symposium on Water Desalination. Information concerning the Symposium can be obtained by writing Merrill M. Blevins, secretary-general, office of International Conference, Department of State, Washington, D.C.

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Pueblo Water Board has agreed to provide water to new industries outside the city limits. The policy adopted is temporary and is intended to assist the Pueblo Development Foundation in securing new industries. A permanent policy will be adopted after an extensive study by a special committee.

THROUGH THE WATER METER

Denver's new Dillon Reservoir spilled on August 3, bringing this city's water supply and storage in excess of 440,000 acre-feet 92 percent of capacity, most in Denver Water Board's 47-year history . . .

City Council of Aurora has given approval to an ordinance providing for the sale of $8 million in general obligation bonds to the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City . . . A total of 121 of 250 oil shale claims, whose owners were denied mining patents by the Denver office of the Bureau of Land Management in decisions handed down in February, 1962, can be renewed. This was a result of legal opinion issued by
Frank J. Barry, Department of the Interior Solicitor . . . July, 1965 was the wettest in Denver's recorded history . . . A national opinion poll made by Gallup shows that an overwhelming majority of American people support the idea of government action to find solution to water shortages . . . The Colorado Department of Health reports no increase in gastro-intestinal ailments as a result of the June flood as of July 15 . . . Snow closed the road leading to the top of 14,264-foot Mount Evans between Echo Lake and the summit on July 31 for a brief period of time . . . Governor Love said that a solution agreeable to the entire San Luis Valley must be found to water problems stemming from the Rio Grande before the federal government takes control of the river . . . Senator Gordon Allott (R-Colo.) has announced that he expects House action in a month to six weeks on a $1,725,000 flood control levee on the Arkansas River at Las Animas . . . The world's weather pattern may be in the process of fundamental changes as the result of burning of large amounts of fossil fuel, injection of jet airplane exhausts into global air circulation and the reduction of rural lands into city development, according to a report by Dr. Walter Orr Roberts, director of the national center for atmospheric research at the University of Colorado . . . The water department system in Montrose designed to take care of a city of 10,000 is falling short of supplying the city's estimated population of 7,300 according to a report at a council meeting on July 22 . . . It is reported that the Federal Power Commission may turn down an appeal by the Rocky Mountain Power Company for more
time to answer questions about its proposed Sweetwater Project. If the appeal is denied, Rocky Mountain Power may have to start again from scratch. Conservationists are opposing the project... The Department of Game, Fish and Parks has proposed the creation of a state agency to handle all water pollution problems... Lee F. Johnson, former director of the Denver Housing Authority, was named by Denver Mayor Currigan to coordinate the $284,000 Urban Renewal feasibility study along the South Platte River Valley... President Johnson has signed a bill authorizing the appropriation of $37 million annually during the next five years to develop economical, large scale desalinization plants to furnish fresh water from the sea.

CONVENTION NOTICE

NATIONAL RECLAMATION ASSOCIATION, Muehlbach Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri, November 7 to 12, inclusive, 1965.

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WILKIE HAM

State Senator Wilkie Ham, 77 (D-Lamar), who died at a Denver hospital on July 24, 1965, was a member of the Senate Water Committee where he participated actively at all committee meetings held on recently adopted ground water legislation. In his way, he was in the tradition of the Old West, a hard fighter and a man of his word. He always stood for what he thought was right and his influential voice will be sorely missed in the next legislative session.