"We all need this regional legislation, either for present or for future needs, or for both. I can say to the Upper Basin that this legislation may be as vital to their aspirations as it is to ours. Arizona's over-draft or New York City's shortage of today may be yours tomorrow unless all seven states work together to bring more water into the Colorado. We face a common challenge and it requires a united response." (Northcutt Ely, special counsel, Colorado River Board of California)

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CENTRAL ARIZONA PROJECT HITS MANY SNAGS

The chances of congressional action this year on the proposed legislation authorizing the $1.3 billion Lower Colorado Basin Water and Power Project which includes the $800 million Central Arizona Project appear exceedingly dim. Wayne N. Aspinall (Colo), chairman of the House Interior Committee, said "there are too many imponderables and there is too little understanding between the areas concerned." The implication was clear that approval of the project next year would depend on a better understanding between the three states of the Pacific Northwest and the seven states of the Colorado River Basin.

At the hearings on the proposed legislation which began in Washington on August 23, the governors and their representatives from the Upper Colorado River Basin states, of Colorado, Wyoming and Utah, agreed to support the Lower Basin Project provided these principles are written into the authorizing legislation:

- Diversions from the main stream of Colorado below Lee Ferry, Arizona must be limited when necessary so as not to prejudice, impair or pre-
clude future development of projects in the Upper Basin after downstream delivery of 75 million acre-feet of water in any consecutive 10-year period as required by the Colorado River Compact.

- Included in the project authorization there must be provisions for project authorization for bringing water into the Colorado River Basin. This imported water, preferably from the Columbia River, to be used to supply delivery commitments to Mexico under the Treaty of 1944, shortages in the upper and lower basins, and water necessary to meet the 1.2 million acre-feet demand of the Central Arizona Project.

- Glen Canyon Reservoir should not be depleted except when necessary to comply with the Colorado River Compact or when approved by the Upper Colorado River Commission.

- Termination of payments from the Upper Colorado River Basin Fund to the Colorado River Fund of the Lower Basin for Power deficiencies at Hoover Dam as the result of low river flows.

Ival G. Goslin, executive director of the Upper Colorado River Commission testified that water must be imported to the Colorado River Basin to make the Lower Colorado River Basin project feasible. He said there just isn’t enough water in the Colorado River and its tributaries to meet the needs of the Lower Basin project. Goslin suggested an amendment to the legislation which would authorize the Interior Department to plan facilities to import at least 3.5 million acre-feet of water annually into the Colorado Basin below Lee Ferry. Goslin's testimony was backed up by Royce J. Tipton, a Denver consulting engineer, who testified it would be extremely unwise to authorize construction of the Lower Basin project without also authorizing importation of water into the basin.

Governor John Love of Colorado, in an impressive presentation, testified that Colorado can support the huge Lower Colorado project only if protective safeguards for upper basin water allocations are written
into the legislation. Love testified "it is obvious that the lower basin project, involving primarily the development of new water for Central Arizona, must depend upon the use of upper basin water unless outside water is imported." "The conclusion is inescapable that the compact allocation to the upper states is deficient by over 1 million acre-feet annually", Love said.

Complete unanimity of the Upper Basin states was shattered when New Mexico testified in support of the Central Arizona project providing Arizona agrees to a provision in the legislation which will allow New Mexico to take an additional 46,000 acre-feet of water annually for the Hooker Dam project on the Gila River. This is water being used in Arizona and the two states are not in agreement on the New Mexico terms. This allocation of water, if authorized, would give New Mexico more water than has been appropriated by the Compact. Sub-committee member representative Craig Hosmer (Calif) called the New Mexico terms "ransom". Representative Morris K. Udall (Ariz) said "I think it is a little odd for New Mexico to ask us to give up 46,000 acre-feet of water we desperately need from the Gila River in Arizona and compel us to cut down on our 2.8 million acre-feet allocation from the Colorado River."

The Pacific Northwest states - Washington, Oregon and Idaho - braced for a concerted drive against the importation of water out of the Columbia River basin. H. Maurice Ahlquist, director of the Department of Conservation for the state of Washington, voiced deep concern for the Pacific Northwest when he stated "as of this moment there might
planners, in order to get the Colorado River Storage project going, dropped the Echo Park Dam idea and instead built the dam at Flaming Gorge. Testimony for Colorado conservation groups was presented by Roger B. Hansen of Denver who testified he represented the Colorado Botany Club, the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, the Regional Park Association and other similar groups.

Bridge and Marble Canyon Dams are included in the project authorization bill mainly to generate power necessary to pump imported water and to pump Colorado River water into Central Arizona.

Another snag in the path of the Central Arizona project which must be unraveled is a provision in the recently enacted Water Resources Planning Act which prohibits project planning for federal transportation of water from one basin to another without specific legislative authorization. Officials from the Southwestern states have expressed concern that this provision may stymie efforts to study importation of water into the arid Southwest.

GROUND WATER BOARD RESCINDS RECOMMENDATIONS

THE COLORADO GROUND WATER COMMISSION, in a double-barreled action at its Denver meeting on August 27, rescinded all previous recommendations restricting the drilling of water wells to develop new lands. The first action was taken after hearing testimony presented by Jack Toole, Lyman Wright, Doctor Louis Barnett, and Floyde Brown, all of the San Luis Valley, who testified that the action of the commission on August 6 recommending that wells for new lands be restricted in the San Luis Valley was hurt-
ing business and threatening the economic future of the area. The commission reversed itself and voted to eliminate the San Luis Valley from well restriction recommendations.

After this action several board members protested the relief being limited to the San Luis Valley only; and that if such action was taken for the benefit of the Valley, similar relief should be extended to the other five areas in the state where well restrictions had been recommended. The commission then voted to rescind previous recommendations for well restrictions in the Kiowa, Bijou, Badger and Beaver Creeks and the Prospect Valley.

In essence, the action of the commission leaves it entirely up to the state engineer as to the approval of applications for new wells. Acting State Engineer Ralph Owens in an interview said he would administer well applications in accordance with the new ground water law which gives him the authority to deny applications if senior rights of other wells or surface right owners are adversely affected. If rights are not adversely affected, well applications will be approved.

In another action the commission voted to initiate proceedings for the establishment of a designated ground water management district in the Kiowa - Bijou Creek drainages, an area of more than 1,000 square miles, east of Denver, extending to about 108 miles south of Wiggins. The action was taken in accordance with provisions of Senate Bill 367 passed by the last session of the legislature. Final designation of the underground water district will hinge on the outcome of a public
hearing scheduled at 10:00 AM October 21 in the REA Building at Fort Morgan. At the hearing persons will be allowed to testify for or against the proposed designated ground water district. If the Fort Morgan hearing presents testimony in favor of district creation the commission will then call for an election of the tax paying electors in the proposed district for the purpose of determining whether such district shall be organized. A favorable vote at this election will create a ground water management district subject to local control.

New commission members, recently appointed by Governor Love, were introduced at the meeting. These include: Ira Kelley of Mancos replacing Frank Gray of Bayfield; Warren Hofstra of Denver, new member at large; and Martin Buol of Burlington replacing Lail Smith of Lamar.

**FLOOD CONTROL UNIT APPOINTED FOR SOUTH PLATTE BASIN**

A **SEVEN MAN steering committee** has been named to develop a flood control and conservation plan for the South Platte River. The committee, appointed by Beniamin F. Stapleton, chairman of the Colorado Conservation Board, will work in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation, the Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies to develop "as rapidly as possible" a plan for the river. The official title of the committee will be the South Platte Conservation and Flood Control Steering Committee. Felix L. Sparks, director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, was named chairman. Other members include H. H. Vandemoer of Sterling; Donald W. Hamil, chairman of the Lower South Platte Conservancy District; J. K. Smith of the Inter-County Regional Planning Commission; Donald D.
Williams, former Douglas County Commissioner; William H. McNichols, Denver Manager of Public Works; and Jack Ross, attorney for the Denver Water Board.

ITEMS IN BRIEF

The Legislative Digest of the National Reclamation Association reports that Senator Frank E. Moss of Utah expects to introduce a bill in the near future which would establish a Department of Natural Resources providing for a sweeping change in natural resource administration: (1) The assignment of water resource functions to one Assistant Secretary for Water Resources; (2) Electric power generation and transmission to one Assistant Secretary for Power; (3) Land management activities (non-defense areas) to one Assistant Secretary for Land Management; and (4) The assignment of all non-resource functions now in the Department of Interior to other departments.

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Eric Wendt, Brush contractor and school official, has been elected manager of the Lower South Platte Conservancy District. Wendt is a native of Beemer, Nebraska and a 1927 graduate of the University of Nebraska.

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Dr. Raymond L. Anderson, U. S. Department of Agriculture economist based at Colorado State University, has been assigned to a special one-year research project at Harvard University. Dr. Anderson will serve at Harvard as principal investigator on a research project concerning the economics of irrigation water distribution. He will work with the graduate school of public administration and will hold a staff appointment at that university.

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Dr. Charles H. Dowding, Jr., director of the Boulder City-County Health Department, says that Colorado needs more stringent laws to prevent and correct water pollution. Dr. Dowding made the suggestion in a statement to the Colorado Legislative Council's Committee on Water Pollution.

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Pueblo County Commissioners have endorsed the Pueblo Regional Planning Commission's general plan for a major park at the Pueblo Re-
servoir, to be constructed as a part of the Fryingpan-Arkansas project.

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President Johnson has declared sections of New York, New Jersey and Delaware as federal disaster areas. This action clears the way for emergency measures to counter the extreme water shortages in those states.

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The retirement of F. M. Clinton, regional director of Region 4 of the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation in Salt Lake City, Utah and the appointment of David L. Crandall of Burley, Idaho as his successor has been announced by Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall. The change in command became effective September 6. Crandall, a native of Idaho Falls, Idaho, graduated from Stanford University as a civil engineer in 1941. He is a registered professional engineer and an associate member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

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The Department of the Interior has announced that the Bureau of Reclamation and the Salt River Power District in Arizona have agreed to a supplemental contract which will make the District the largest single contractor for power deliveries from the Colorado River Storage Project. Under the contract power deliveries will be increased in the ensuing years, reaching a maximum of 300,000 kilowatts during the summer of 1969.

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Senator Frank E. Moss (Utah) has introduced a resolution in the Senate requesting that a proposal for diversion of water from the Arctic Rivers to the United States and Canada be sent to the International Joint Commission which handles water problems common to the two countries. The resolution proposes an economic and engineering feasibility study of the plan and that the governments of the two countries be told of the results of the study by the end of 1966. The plan, called the North American Water and Power Alliance, would bring badly needed water from Northern areas of surplus to 33 states as well as portions of Canada and Mexico. It is estimated that the project would cost $100 billion.

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Officials of the Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department claim that a recently enacted law requiring the states to help pay for recreational improvements at federal reclamation projects in Colorado could jeopardize Colorado's recreation development. Objections are
based on a requirement by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation that the Bureau won't build special features for recreational development until they first have a commitment from the Colorado Department to share the cost.

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Receipts from sales from the federal conservation sticker and from daily or weekly entrance fees to federal recreation areas are falling far below expectations, according to an announcement by Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall. The sticker sells for $7.00 and is for attachment to a private automobile. It admits the driver and all passengers for a year into most federal recreation areas in national forests, parks and monuments.

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House action has included the proposed 10,000 acre-feet conservation pool at John Martin Dam in the 1965 Senate passed omnibus Public Works bill. The Senate version of the bill did not include provisions for the conservation pool and the issue must be settled in conference.

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The Game, Fish and Parks Department has announced that the Stalker Lake Dam, near Wray, washed out on the night of August 24. The Department has had bad luck with several of their dams built for recreational purposes.

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Felix L. Sparks, director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, speaking before the Lions Club in Fort Morgan, Colorado on September 3, said that it may be "unlikely" that Congress would approve any flood control projects in the Rocky Mountain Region until disagreements over the proposed Central Arizona project are settled. Sparks said the Two Forks and Narrows projects could be affected but that the Chatfield Dam which has already been authorized could be completed by the Army Corps of Engineers.

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President Lyndon Johnson designated Secretary of Interior Stewart L. Udall to serve as chairman of the Water Resources Council, a post created by the recently enacted Water Resources Planning Act which authorizes the establishment of river basin commissions.

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Officials of the Tri-County Health Department have advised the South Adams County Water and Sanitation District to discontinue use of three of its shallow wells for domestic purposes. The Health Department alleged the water to be polluted and suggested a new supplementary source from the Denver Water Board.

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The Ute Mountain Tribal Council of southwestern Colorado has notified Representative Wayne Aspinall (Colo), chairman of the House Interior Committee, that it is interested in participating in the proposed Animas-La Plata project near Durango and the proposed Dolores project near Dove Creek. Denver's water supply in storage approximated 500,000 acre-feet at the end of August. The Federal Power Commission has scheduled a hearing to begin in Washington on May 23, 1966 on applications by the Rocky Mountain Power Company, Denver, for a license to build a $130 million, 990,000-kilowatt hydro electric project in northwestern Colorado. The first phase of the proposed project would be the Sweetwater pump-storage plant. Possible formation of a flood protection district in Pueblo County was considered by the Pueblo Planning Commission's flood steering committee at its August 20 meeting. Creation of a South Platte Conservancy District has been proposed by Denver's Mayor Tom Currigan. Currigan's proposal was made at a recent meeting of the Inter-County planning commission. The Lee Johnson Construction Company of Rifle, Colorado was the apparent low bidder for a Bureau of Reclamation contract for canal construction and rehabilitation for the Silt Project near Rifle. The company submitted a bid of $134,222. A unique water storage idea has been developed to catch and store water in the Arizona desert for use by the Navajo Indians. The device is a water catchment made of butyl rubber. George Setter, manager of the Grand Junction office of the Western States Machinery Co., has urged a dam in De Beque Canyon on the Colorado River above
Grand Junction for the benefit of the oil shale-industry... To date Colorado has received $1,197,150 in federal money for repair of flood-damaged public facilities. Governor Love says that more is expected to follow as the total application amounts to about $21 million... Plans to seed clouds at Stapleton Airport in Denver when the airport is fog-bound are being discussed by airport officials and United Airlines...

The City of Aurora has broken ground for a $2.5 million raw-water filter plant on a 50-acre site north of Cherry Creek Dam in Arapahoe County. The plant will process water diverted from the Homestake Project on the Western Slope... Brighton Council has requested an ordinance increasing the cost of water tap fees... The 58,000 acre Pine River Watershed Protection Project in La Plata and Archuleta Counties has been approved for operation. The Soil Conservation Service reports that the project is sponsored by the Pine River Soil Conservation District at an estimated cost of $657,000... Releases from Lake Powell are exceeding the inflow and the level of the reservoir is slowly dropping. The peak in storage amounted to 8,715,000 acre-feet... End of July total runoff of the Colorado River above Lee Ferry totaled 11,800,000 acre-feet, exceeding Reclamation Bureau estimates by nearly 800,000 acre-feet... Ralph Owens, acting state engineer, reports that present water storage in Colorado's reservoirs is at the highest level in nearly 40 years... A new 16 millimeter Bureau of Reclamation all-color, sound motion picture entitled "Flaming Gorge" is now available for free loan to public organizations. Address requests to the Bureau at its Denver office, Bldg. 53, Denver Federal Center.