Speaking on the proposed bill to create the Central Arizona Water Project, U. S. Representative Roy H. McVicker (D-Colo) said "Colorado's position must now be to stand together or else we dry up."

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**COLORADOAN TO HEAD NATIONAL WATER GROUP**

HAROLD H. CHRISTY, of Pueblo, was elected President of the National Reclamation Association at its thirty-fourth annual convention held in Kansas City, Missouri on November 7-12, 1965, to serve during the coming year. Convention proceedings emphasized increased action in securing protection of states water rights and urged Congress to set up a coordinated national water policy and adequate appropriations for water development and reclamation programs.

Hugh A. Shamberger, this year's president, urged the membership to keep in mind the ultimate purpose of its water resource endeavors which is to make sure that our nation and its people always have available all the water they need to carry out their various activities. Shamberger also pointed out:

"Our economy and our society simply cannot survive and flourish unsupported by adequate availabilities of the most fundamental and versatile of all natural resources -- water. It is with this in mind that I confess to some misgivings about the present heavy emphasis being given to wild nature values. It is not that I do not fully appreciate the worth and importance of these things -- I do, I am sure we all do. But there is no point in planning to meet any one or a few water needs, no matter how
attractive if we do so at the neglect or expense of other needs perhaps less publicized at the moment, but at least equally vital in the long run. Can we truly say we have a sound and well-balanced national water program when recreation and beautification are treated like princes or movie stars, while irrigation and power and water supply are treated like pariahs? We cannot have favorites in our family of water needs and functions if we expect the family to thrive."

LAWRENCE MEHREN, chairman of the Central Arizona Project Association, in an address before the group pointed out that Central Arizona demands about 4,500,000 acre-feet of water per year and that surface and underground supplies furnish about 2,250,000 acre-feet, leaving an annual deficit amounting to 2,250,000 acre-feet. "Do you wonder at the intensity of our plea in Washington." Mehren pointed out. Regarding opposition by single purpose groups, Mehren had this to say:

- "Of course, we do not know how the House Committee or the Congress as a whole will view this new draft bill. But I would venture that if the seven basin states came as a united group to present their plea for the solution of the entire water problem of this vast area, Congress could not help but turn an attentive ear.

- "One would think that this greatly expanded cast of characters and stage for the drama of Big Red were big enough as things now stand. But in the wings, poised for their cues, are two other players -- the Pacific Northwest states, and various outdoor groups opposed to any dams.

- "With regard to the latter groups, they have been referred to many times as "conservationists," but I don't think this is precisely descriptive. Conservation implies wise use, rather than non-use. You men of reclamation are thus the true conservationists. Perhaps the more accurate designation for these groups is 'primitivists' -- they want nothing touched.

- "I do not question the sincerity of the primitivists. But I do deplore the deliberately misleading propaganda which has been pouring from their various headquarters. In an appeal to emotions rather than to reason, they continue to loosely bandy about the charge that we plan to 'flood the Grand Canyon' with the Bridge Canyon Dam. The inference to the public is that the reservoir will submerge the great temples of that vast canyon, and that in a high wind the waves will lap over El Tovar. How preposterous can one get?"
"We are talking about a dam 80 miles downstream from the Grand Canyon you and I know, a structure so insignificant in majesty of that gorge, and so buried in the inner recess of the chasm, that one couldn't find it even from an airplane unless he knew exactly what he was looking for and where it was.

"True, the reservoir would reach a very few miles along the western boundary of the National Park, in its most inaccessible area. But this was very frankly envisioned by Congress in 1919 in creating the Park, for it specifically authorized the Secretary of the Interior to utilize such area for a reclamation project.

"Bridge Canyon's reservoir would provide a waterway for hundreds of thousands of Americans to enjoy this fascinating canyon area. Herein lies the real motive of the primitivists. They want to reserve to themselves the exclusive use of this part of America, and other parts as well, and 'the public be damned.'"

FRANK J. BARRY, solicitor, Department of the Interior, said, "In this century the diversion of water from great distances has become common and imperative" and he stressed greater effort by federal and state governments:

"In the face of continued demands for water, it is doubtful that the political boundaries of a state will prove to be any more inviolable. This is not to suggest that the law will discontinue protecting the rights and interests of areas of water surplus. States and areas of origin will doubtless be granted legally protected priorities of supply and economic guarantees that their own future water development costs will not be increased as a result of the exportation of their water.

"States of origin, therefore, blessed by abundant surplus, posses an economic advantage which can be marketed without sacrificing future growth. The passage of unused water into the sea may heighten the pride of a region, but it contributes neither to its economic betterment nor to the welfare of the nation as a whole.

"The distribution of surplus water to water-deficient areas can be accomplished only through the combined efforts of Federal and state governments. The time has come to judge sectional rivalries in the light of modern conditions. We have the technological and planning know-how it takes to meet challenges like the interstate and trans-basin exportation of water, but it will take daring and imaginative water statesmanship to put such redistribution of water into effect."
"We are a people possessed of natural plenty who have been slow to learn how to conserve it and apportion it. The greatness of our abundance too often has insulated us for long periods from our mistakes. Our cup runneth over, yet we have taken comparatively little heed of the Hebraic admonition that water spilt on the ground cannot be gathered up again.

"Perhaps some of these recent trends in Federal-state relations concerning water resources development foretell our coming of age as a people of plenty."

SECRETARY OF INTERIOR Stewart Udall outlined the contributions of the 89th Congress to date:

- The Water Resources Planning Act -- to help the Nation meet its burgeoning need by creation of the top-level Water Resources Council and fostering full cooperation between state and Federal Governments in comprehensive planning for the best uses of water and adjoining lands.

- The Water Quality Act of 1965 -- establishing a water pollution control administration in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, setting up water control standards in cooperation with the states, and raising to $150 million the Federal contribution to stimulate construction of municipal waste-treatment facilities.

- The Auburn-Folsom South Unit, authorizing a $425 million water resource development in California, which would make supplemental irrigation water available to 400,000 acres of prime farmlands.

- The Garrison Diversion Unit, authorizing in North Dakota a $212 million multipurpose resource project benefiting 14 towns and cities and providing irrigation water for 250,000 acres.

- The Water Resources Recreation Act establishing for the first time legislative recognition of recreation as a major multiple-purpose use of reclamation reservoirs, and calling for the states to pay one-half of the bill.

- The Northeast Drought Survey, to be conducted by the Army Corps of Engineers and the new Water Resources Council, to look into possible construction of a system of major reservoirs, aqueducts, and purification facilities from Maine to Maryland.

- The Southern Nevada Water Project, which in its initial phase would carry Lake Mead water to Las Vegas, three nearby cities and an Air Force base, and have recreation and fish and wildlife benefits.
RESOLUTIONS adopted by the convention included among others:

- That Congress should enact a law requiring all federal agencies to comply with state water laws.

- That S.1636 be amended and vigorously supported in the second session of the 89th Congress to secure legislation protecting states' water rights.

- That legislation be passed establishing uniform procedures for the authorization of feasibility studies.

- Urging Congress to authorize appropriate federal agencies to commence and process to conclusion feasibility studies for the inter-basin movement of water from states having surplus waters, subject to the recognition and protection of rights and needs of basins of origin. (Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana voted against this resolution.)

- That Congress be urged to establish uniform project development standards to be followed by all federal agencies.

- Urging Congress to make adequate appropriations for water development programs.

- Urging that in the administration of the Water Quality Act of 1965, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare recognize as paramount the necessity of preserving the maximum availability for diversion for beneficial uses of the limited water which now exists in western rivers.

- Supporting the multi-purpose concept of development and conservation of natural resources in opposition to single purpose objectives of preservationist groups.

- Urging federal agencies in charge of wilderness areas to permit access for the preservation, maintenance or reconstruction of water works facilities located in such areas.

- Urging the Public Land Law Review Commission to recognize rights to the use of water resources which have been acquired by state water laws.

ASPINALL CALLS FOR SPEED ON ARIZONA PROJECT

"THE UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN must act soon to determine its position on the proposed Central Arizona Project or it may lose some of its
rights to the river water," Rep. Wayne Aspinall (Colo), chairman of the House Interior Committee, declared at a news conference following an address before the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry in Denver on November 19.

At the same time in a meeting of the Colorado Water Conservation Board it appeared that water leaders of the state were moving closer to a united position on the Central Arizona proposal. Former Colorado Governor Ed C. Johnson and Felix Sparks, director of the Colorado Board, agreed that the 1.2 million acre-feet of water which would be diverted for the project should be calculated as part of the 7.5 million acre-feet annual allocation for the Lower Basin under the Colorado River Compact. Sparks reported in answer to questions by Johnson that the 1.2 million acre-feet for the Central Arizona Project not only is a part of the Compact allocation but is a part of the 2.8 million acre-feet of lower river water awarded Arizona by the U.S. Supreme Court. Johnson had been contending that, under the provisions of revised H.R.4671, this water would be in addition to Arizona allocations; and that the water would have to be furnished by upper basin water or by imports.

Sparks said "The Upper Basin's fear is that the Lower Basin will put to use the excess water flowing past Lee Ferry now and later would block Upper Basin plans for development to use this excess water." It is Sparks' position that the best guarantee of Colorado's water rights is the simultaneous authorization of Colorado projects along with the Central Arizona Project.
ITEMS IN BRIEF

Denver's recent persistent series of earthquakes may be caused by the pumping of Rocky Mountain Arsenal wastes into the underground through a 12,000 foot well according to David M. Evans, Denver consulting geologist. Evans has prepared graphs showing that the earthquakes occurred during periods of heaviest pumping by the arsenal. Governor Love has asked the Colorado School of Mines and the U.S. Geological Survey to investigate the theory.

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The Water Pollution Committee of the Colorado Legislative Council has approved a proposed bill to control pollution in Colorado. The measure, if enacted, will create a nine-member State Water Pollution Control Commission and will assign the State Health Department to do its staff work. Dr. Roy L. Cleere, director of the State Health Department and William McGlone, president of the State Board of Health, opposed the creation of the separate commission. They warned of possible administrative confusion in having two policy-making groups over health department personnel. McGlone and Cleere urged the passage of a bill prepared by the State Health Department which proposes increased department authority and suggests the creation of a water pollution advisory committee composed of a membership similar to the commission as recommended by the legislative committee. Sen. Donald Kelley, (Denver) warned committee members they were creating a "two-headed monster" by having two governing boards over the State Health Department. The Committee killed by 4 to 3 a motion to set up a control program along the lines suggested by the Health Department.

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Western States Water Council members have selected Portland, Oregon as the site of permanent headquarters, and appointed Pat Head of Nevada as chairman of the screening committee for candidates to become the executive director, a post to pay as high as $25,000 a year.

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Attorney General Thomas Lynch spotlighted three points on which there is California consensus: (1) The Colorado River Basin Project Act (HR 4671, as revised) warrants the support of the entire nation and should be enacted at the next session of Congress. (2) Areas of origin of surplus water which may be transferred to the arid Colorado River Basin should participate in definite project benefits as well as enjoying protection of future rights to restoration of exported water at the same quantity, quality and price levels. (3) Congress should repeal Sec. 8 of Public Law 89-72 (Recreation) and Sec. 3-d of Public Law 89-80 (Water Resources Planning) to permit the utmost freedom of studies of feasibility among alternative solutions.
to the water problems of the Far West. On point 3, Lynch quoted Northcutt Ely, California water attorney, in asking: "Who's afraid of the facts?" (Colorado River Association Newsletter - December 1965)

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The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has contracted with the Colony Development Company, a combine of three corporations - Oilshale Corp., of New York; and Ohio Petroleum Company and Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company of Cleveland, Ohio - to supply water for a prototype oil shale plant near Grand Valley. The contract which is renewable will run for 40 years beginning with the first delivery of water from the Colorado River by pumping. The contract calls for the annual payment of $4,250 annually for a "readiness to serve" provision, or $8.50 per acre-foot for a minimum of 500 acre-feet. The contract terms permit a maximum of 7,200 acre-feet a year if available. The water will come from storage at Green Mountain Reservoir.

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The Bureau of Reclamation has approved a contract for integration of the Pryingpan-Arkansas and Homestake transmountain water diversion projects in the vicinity of Leadville. The contract, when approved by Colorado Springs and Aurora, provides that up to 30,000 acre-feet of water diverted by the Homestake project may be stored in Turquoise Lake of the Pryingpan-Arkansas Project west of Leadville. The two cities would pay the Bureau $7.7 million over a period of 50 years for use of the Pan-Ark facilities.

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A crowd of nearly 800 people packed the grand ballroom of the Brown Palace Hotel, in Denver on November 29, in attendance at the conference on air and water pollution called by Governor Love. The keynote address was delivered by James Quigley, assistant secretary of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, D. C., who said "it is possible that all civilization will pass away -- not from a sudden cataclysm like a nuclear war -- but from gradual suffocation in its own wastes." Governor Love said "our future courses of action must be predicated on the grounds of practicality. We do not live - nor can we legislate - in a vacuum. Pollution becomes no problem if we close the doors of our industries, move the people off the farms, keep the cars in the garages and disperse the cities of Colorado. But our future is tied to productive industries, to a prosperous agriculture, to mobile people and to thriving cities. It is also tied to an abundant supply of clean water and clear air that should be the hallmark of Colorado." Consensus of the conference called for immediate legislation dealing with Colorado's air and water pollution.

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The Colorado Wildlife Federation at its next annual convention, to be held in Denver at the Center Denver Motel Lodge on January 8 and 9, will consider two resolutions of concern to Colorado water users: (1) Urging Congress to create a separate department of natural resources consolidating the Bureau of Reclamation, the pollution control activities of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the civil water control functions of the Corps of Engineers and the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management into one agency; (2) Opposing the construction of Bridge Canyon Dam and Marble Canyon Dam as part of the Central Arizona Project. It is rumored that the resolution opposing the two dams is a part of a national grassroots opposition program being generated throughout the nation.

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The Colorado Ground Water Commission concluded its hearings in Fort Morgan on December 2 on the designation of the Bijou-Kiowa Ground Water Basin. Statements for designation were entered by Robert A. Baer, Mrs. Louise Worley Busch and Don Richardson, all of Wiggins. Their testimony centered on the problem of basin-wide lowering of underground water tables and the expression of opposition to plans for the exportation of water out of the basin by pumping. In an interview, Senator Frank L. (Ted) Gill of Hillrose said, "There has been too much examination and cross examination. The real purpose of the hearing has been lost in a maze of questions and answers. It would seem that the commission is now in possession of enough material where it could designate the basin in five minutes and then let the local people decide if they want to form a district. If this doesn’t work, there are always the courts to provide the final answer." At the conclusion of the hearing, John Cuykendall, president of the commission, said that the commission would, after an analysis of the testimony, announce its decision at an open meeting held at a later date.

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Four western Colorado men were re-elected to posts of the Colorado River Water Users Association at its meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada on Dec. 3. They include: Phil Smith of Glenwood Springs, president; R. B. Wilson, Grand Junction, secretary-treasurer; and Robert DeLaney of Glenwood Springs and Amos Horn of Granby as members of the board.

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THROUGH THE WATER METER

Governor Love has stated it will be impossible to safeguard Colorado’s rights to Colorado River water without construction of dams in the
Leon K. Suhm, Inc. of Denver has been awarded a $628,906 contract for construction of the first phase of the Harvard Gulch Control Project in Denver. When the Pueblo Reservoir is completed and in operation, Pueblo plans to be one of the great recreational areas of the state. Colorado City has augmented its water supply with a new 650-foot well producing 500 gallons per minute. Larry Lehman of Creede was fined $50 by U.S. Commissioner Jack Jenkins, in Pueblo on charges of driving a four-wheel-drive vehicle into the LaGarita wilderness area.

A University of Utah research professor has been awarded a U.S. Public Health Service research grant totaling about $217,000 to explore the effect of air pollutants on plant growth. Congressman Wayne Aspinall (Colo) told National Reclamation Association delegates that local agencies of government "abdicate their rights to make decisions" when they demand expanding federal participation in the field of water resource development.

A bitter legislative battle is expected over proposed legislation to place water pollution control in Colorado under the jurisdiction of a separate commission. It has been rumored that the staff of the Colorado Water Conservation Board has advised the Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department against proceeding at this time with reconstruction of the controversial Clay Creek Dam in the Arkansas Valley near Lamar. Interior Secretary Udall said that the recent power failure in the northwestern seaboard states was due to a lack of proper connections between all segments of the power industry, public and private. A major health problem is being created by the lack of adequate sanitation facilities in
Colorado's rapidly growing year around outdoor recreation areas, according to Wm. N. Gahr, chief engineer of the State Department of Public Health...

Sears-Roebuck Foundation put up $3,000 to help defray expenses on the recent Governor's Forum held on water pollution... Lincoln County Commissioner Sam Covington, Sr. of Genoa has been elected president of the County Commissioners Associations...

The Bureau of Reclamation hopes to store enough water in Blue Mesa Reservoir this winter to raise the lake to outlet level by spring... Platteville, 33 miles north of Denver, has been selected as the sight of the new $46 million Public Service - AEC Nuclear Electric Generation Plant...

Work has begun on a soft water system for the town of McClave to be paid for through a $55,000 loan by the Farmers Home Administration...

The task force appointed by President Johnson to report formally on drought conditions in northeastern U.S. has recommended that large nuclear-powered water desalting plants may be "the most economical insurance against future droughts in the areas...

R.S. Shannon, president of the Denver Water Board, predicts that the 1985 water consumption by Denver may approach an annual total of 310,000 acre-feet serving one million persons, of which about 400,000 will live outside the city...

The city of Walsenburg is reported to head the list of Colorado's towns and cities offering no domestic sewage plants...

The Colorado State University Soil Testing Laboratory has established a new analysis service to determine the quality of irrigation water. One quart samples should be mailed to the University in unbreakable plastic bottles. Water sample information sheets are available at local county extension offices...
Eagle Construction Corporation of Loveland, Colorado has been awarded a $1,245,423 contract to construct the Blue Mesa Power Plant at the Curecanti Unit on the Gunnison River. Bureau of Reclamation engineers have warned fishermen against venturing on the ice of Blue Mesa Reservoir due to dangerous conditions around the edges resulting from the rising water level. The Central Weld County Water District has approved $3.8 million bond issue to bring water into the area from Carter Lake. Growing problems of drought and floods are bringing the nation face to face with the necessity of transferring water from one river basin to another.

Lt. Gen. Wm. F. Cassidy told the Republican Valley Water Conservation Association, meeting in McCook, Nebraska on December 7. Felix L. Sparks, director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board has announced that the engineering committee of the Colorado River Commission is to devise a formula for the operation of Glen Canyon Dam. The most popular gathering spot in the headquarters of the Cognac Producers of France, in a meeting in New York City on December 9, was the office water cooler which was filled with five gallons of cognac and soda. The Colorado River Water Users Association meeting in Las Vegas on December 3, approved resolutions supporting regional water planning and opposing the 160-acre limitation on farms under federal reclamation projects. The League of Women Voters has taken action supporting the 89th Congress in its passage of "monumental water legislation" during the 1965 session.