"In the West, where sources of water are few and far between, a system of colossal dams and aqueducts has been and is being built, at great expense. This sort of approach is being increasingly suggested for the Northeast... Part of the problem is finding new sources of water and working out new means to distribute it. But perhaps the biggest part is cleaning up the water we already have and waste." (Boston Herald)

WATER CONGRESS HEARS PLEA OF ARIZONA LEADER

"WE HAVE FOUND that 'no man is an island' to exercise his rights to the disregard of others in modern society, and certainly no state is an island either... So once again we come to you on a bill not just for our benefit. We come on a bill that guarantees your future as well as ours. We ask you to give hard-hitting aggressive action along with the delegations of California, Arizona and Nevada, and to go down the line for us, as we have for you in the past." This plea was made by Lawrence Mehren, chairman, Central Arizona Project Association, speaking before the annual meeting of the Colorado Water Congress at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver on February 10.

Mehren, asking for basin-wide support for the passage of HR 4671, a bill which would authorize the construction of the Central Arizona Project and authorize feasibility studies for water imports into the Colorado Basin, pointed out that the 1.2 million acre-feet for water-desperate Central Arizona would yet leave an annual deficit of 2,250,000 acre-feet in Arizona to be met from somewhere else. Mehren said "To
assure the economic stability and future of the Basin, future needs will amount to an estimated total of 22 million acre-feet annually. Considering the fact that the Colorado River produces an average annual flow of 15 million acre-feet, this leaves the Basin 7 million acre-feet short which must be provided by imports."

JAMES L. OGILVIE, project manager for the Bureau of Reclamation, speaking before the group, said "despite the problems of terrain and labor, the first diversion of water through the $170 million Fryingpan-Arkansas will come in the spring of 1969." Ogilvie explained that two more summers remain in the contract period and that work has been slowed by heavy snowpack and high labor turnover.

GOVERNOR JOHN A. LOVE, of Colorado, told the Congress he is encouraged by the unified position Colorado water users have taken over the Lower Colorado River bill, and that he is hopeful the Columbia River of the Northwest will become a future source for Colorado River Basin imports. Love also reviewed major legislation passed last year to control Colorado's underground water for the first time. "We realize it is going to take the best kind of engineering knowledge, the best administration and the greatest depth of understanding that we can bring to it," Love said. He added that he considers the legislation only a start and expects the law to be amended, possibly in 1967, based on the state's new experience in regulating underground water. He urged the Colorado Water Congress to supply its knowledge to insure that the state's water can be brought to the most efficient use.
FELIX L. SPARKS, director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, outlined the state's official position in endorsing the Lower Colorado River bill which, he said, has been rewritten to protect the rights of the Upper Basin as established by the Colorado River Compact and Colorado constitutional laws.

"Colorado's stand includes a provision that Lake Mead above Hoover Dam would not be lowered at the expense of storage in Lake Powell in the Upper Basin to provide power generation at the Hoover Dam power plant," Sparks said.

PROPOSED WATER LAW CHANGE GETS CONDITIONAL SUPPORT

T. EVERETT COOK, chairman of the Colorado House Natural Resources Committee, said in an interview he believed the new water law (see February Newsletter) proposed by Senator Ted Gill, of Hillrose, merits favorable consideration, provided it is amended to make it constitutional and workable. Cook said, "As is, the bill would nullify all of the water appropriations on a river, and it should be changed to protect established senior rights." Cook pointed out it is common knowledge that much water is wasted if all junior appropriators located above a senior right are shut off and the senior right gets only a small portion of water at its headgate. "In this case," Cook said, "there is no question that Gill's bill would provide better management of the available surface and underground water; but on the other side of the picture, it's unfair to require senior right holders to be forced to pay for pumping to satisfy their rights for the benefit of junior rights above."
Cook admitted that the local economy of areas located in river valleys has developed to the point where the pumping of underground water is absolutely essential and that a system of correlative use of all water would protect this economy. "Accordingly," Cook suggested, "Gill's bill should be amended by adding a clause which would empower water conservation districts to levy a tax against all irrigation water users to establish a fund for the purpose of paying the cost of pumping when a senior right holder must pump water to satisfy his rights when junior rights are diverting or pumping."

STATE SENATOR HARRY M. LOCKE, of Salida, gave conditional support to Gill's proposed bill in a letter to J. D. Pender, Denver water attorney. Locke said, "frankly, I feel this bill is a step in the right direction to use water at its source. In times of short river waters, appropriators could use pumped water to supplement their water decrees, thus preventing a call on water in the upper regions." Pender, in his comments on the bill, said that the term "full decrees" should be changed to "established rights," because "decreed rights in some instances exceed the amount of water ever used or carried, and in such cases the excess belongs to the river and any use of such excess would amount to a new appropriation and would injuriously affect junior appropriators to that extent."

WILD RIVERS BILL GETS START

THE U.S. SENATE has passed the Wild Rivers bill by a vote of 70 to 1, with Senator Milward Simpson (Wyoming) casting the only nay vote.
The measure would set aside land and ban dam construction on parts of seven rivers in the nation, including sections of the Rio Grande in New Mexico. In the bill, the Green River in Wyoming was placed on a study status to determine if it should be included in the system. Senator Simpson said he voted against the measure because it would preempt state water laws and would endanger an agreement under which Wyoming gets water from the Colorado River. Wayne Aspinall, chairman of the House Interior Committee has said the bill would get low priority in the House this session. The program is estimated to cost $14.3 million over a period of five years.

U.S. WILDLIFE EXPERTS GATHERED IN DENVER FOR CAP MEETING

ROBERT R. ELLIOTT, assistant director for management of the Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department, announced that wildlife experts, representing all areas of the United States, gathered in Denver on January 20, 1966, to work out general guidelines and instructions for the Cropland Adjustment Program of the 1965 Farm Bill which was passed by the 89th Congress. Members of the Washington Conservation and Land Use Policy Staff of the USDA - ASCS including their Director Fred G. Ritchie were in Denver for the meeting.

"There are three basic steps in the Cropland Adjustment Program," Elliott said. If the farmer elects to participate in the program:

1. He must take cropland out of production. Crops involved are wheat, barley, grain sorgums and corn. When the farmer signs up in the CAP, he must agree to a conservation practice. He will then be paid according to a formula devised by the USDA for the completion of step number
one. (2) He will put into use on said land approved conservation practices which will insure undisturbed nesting cover which is the key to more pheasants and other upland game. (3) He will receive additional payments if he allows free access and use by sportsmen and recreationists. To enter the Cropland Adjustment Program a farmer must sign up for a minimum five year period or a period not to exceed 10 years.

FULL TEXT OF WATER CONGRESS RESOLUTION

The following resolution was adopted unanimously by the membership of the Colorado Water Congress at its February 10 annual meeting:

WHEREAS, after long months of devoted and time consuming investigation and negotiations on the resolution of problems confronting the State of Colorado in connection with the proposed authorization of Federal Reclamation projects in the Lower Colorado River Basin, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, on February 8, 1966 adopted an official position for the State of Colorado with respect to such proposed legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Water Congress desires to support the position of the State of Colorado as adopted by its Water Conservation Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Water Congress approves and supports the official position of the State of Colorado with respect to the document entitled "Recommended Revision of H.R. 4671" dated February 8, 1966 as expressed by the final action of the Colorado Water Conservation Board taken on February 8, 1966.
ITEMS IN BRIEF

The Colorado Ground Water Commission, at its meeting in Denver on February 11, unanimously adopted a resolution to establish the Kiowa and Bijou drainages as a "Designated Ground Water Basin" in accordance with the provisions of Senate Bill 367 passed by the Colorado Legislature in 1965. John Cuykendall, chairman of the Commission, said this action clears the way for the residents of the area to vote on the creation of a Bijou-Kiowa ground water management district which, if favorably voted, will provide for local control over ground water use in the Basin.

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August P. Gumlick (87), Denver Water Board member from 1929 to 1959, died in St. Lukes Hospotal in Denver on January 31. The Denver Board of Water Commissioners last September 24 honored Mr. Gumlick by renaming its Jones Pass Tunnel the August P. Gumlick Tunnel. The Tunnel, located 55 miles west of Denver, is part of the collection system diverting Williams Fork water through the Moffat Tunnel system to Denver.

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A. Ralph Owens was sworn in as state engineer on February 10 by Justice O. Otto Moore of the Colorado Supreme Court. Owens was high on a civil service examination given on January 21, 1966.

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Robert S. Millar (65) has announced he will retire as Secretary-Manager of the Denver Water Board effective July 1, 1966. Millar will be replaced by R. B. McRae, now Chief Engineer. After July 1, Millar will serve as consultant to the Board for an indefinite term.

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H. P. Dugan, director of Region 7 of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, reported that studies of the proposed $72 million Two Forks Dam on the South Platte River above Denver show the project to be feasible and that rock formations at the site are favorable for the construction of the 545 foot concrete dam.

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Representative Wayne Aspinall, chairman of the House Interior Committee and the Public Land Law Review Commission, has urged farmers, recreationists, ranchers, sheepmen, cattlemen and others interested in using public lands to help work out a viable public land policy. "A new approach to the public land problem is needed," Aspinall said.

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The State Board of Health approved an expenditure of $412,633 in federal funds for the construction of sewage treatment facilities in eight Colorado communities. They include: Walsenburg, Fort Collins, Denver, Kittredge, Grand Valley, Sterling, Platteville and the East Canyon Sanitation District.

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The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation announced the appointment of Ralph A. Gullett as chief construction engineer and Richard C. Dittman as chief of the estimates and analyses branch of the division of construction, both with headquarters at the Bureau office in Denver.

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Thornton and North Pecos Sanitation Districts have officially become a part of the Metropolitan Denver Sewage Disposal District. These additions to the system are the first since it was created by thirteen cooperating sanitation districts in May 1961. The project, which will put most of Metropolitan Denver's sewage under secondary treatment, is being built with funds provided by a $32.5 million bond issue. With these two additions Metro will serve about 80 percent of the built-up Denver area.

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President Johnson allayed fears caused by previous reports of reclamation delays, by including $18 million for the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project in his budget request for fiscal 1967. His budget also included $481,000 for studies on Chatfield Dam, $1,180,000 for the Bostwick Park Project, $1,140,000 for the Silt Project, $14,200,000 for the San Juan-Chama Project and $12.9 million for the Curecanti Project. The budget included money for general investigations on Battlement Mesa, Bluestone, Grand Mesa, Upper Gunnison and the Yellow Jacket Projects.

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The Colorado Supreme Court, by a 6-1 decision, in an opinion by Justice O. Otto Moore, has ruled the new $30 million steam generating
electric plant operated by the Colorado-Ute Electric Association at Hayden was illegally constructed according to Colorado utility law. Attorneys for Colorado-Ute have announced they will ask the high Court for a rehearing.

FROM THE READERS

F. V. Kroeger, of Durango, calls attention that the San Juan-Chama is not a Southwestern Colorado Project as reported in the February 1. issue of the Newsletter but is totally a New Mexico Project which was opposed by the Southwestern Colorado Water Conservation Board on the basis that New Mexico was putting to use 60 to 70 thousand acre-feet of water above their Colorado River Compact entitlement. Kroeger is a member of the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

THROUGH THE WATER METER

Rep. John P. Saylor, ranking republican on the U.S. House Interior Committee, called the proposed Marble Canyon Dam portion of the Central Arizona Project an "expensive absurdity"... The water surface of the reservoir behind Blue Mesa Dam on the Gunnison River below Gunnison has approached the outlet works level. The storage at this point amounts to 111,232 acre-feet... Allen Blomquist, director of the Public Regional Planning Commission, warned that the Fountain River can produce greater floods than the one which occurred last June... Pueblo Water Board announced that it has been negotiating for purchase of some of the Twin Lakes Reservoir and Canal Company transmountain water and storage rights... Uranium producers are disputing recent charges that their industry is a substantial contributor to Colorado's water pollution... Senator Clinton P. Anderson (New Mexico), with the backing of Senator Gordon Allott (Colo), has introduced a bill to "vastly expand" federal rain-making efforts... Earl L. Mosley (82), veteran official of the Denver Water Board, announced his retirement effective
March 1, 1966. During his term of office with the Board Mosley was chief engineer of the multi-million dollar Roberts Tunnel Project bringing water from the Blue River to Denver and served five years as the Board's manager. . . . The President's budget included a sharp cut-back in funds available for recreation, fish and wildlife for the Upper Colorado projects. . . . A Georgetown delegation has asked the Game, Fish and Parks Commission to rebuild Georgetown Dam. A department-built dam at the site washed out in the spring of 1956, and as a result the department has paid more than $80,000 to downstream property owners for flood damages. . . . United States Representatives, Byron Rogers of Denver and Roy McVicker of Colorado's second district said they will seek the money needed to start the Chatfield Dam Project in 1967 as an addition to President Johnson's budget. . . . Aurora and Colorado Springs expect the first delivery of Homestake water from the Western Slope in the spring of 1967. . . . The New York Times, in an editorial, expressed opposition to the construction of Marble and Bridge Canyon Dams on the Lower Colorado River which are proposed as part of the Central Arizona Project. . . . Warner Construction Company of Colorado Springs was the apparent low bidder on a Bureau of Reclamation bid for the construction of the Shiprock-Curecanti power transmission line. . . . The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has asked that 50 acres of public land in the Uncompahgre National Forest be withdrawn from multiple use and be utilized for the Silver Jack Reservoir of the Bostwick Park Project in Southwestern Gunnison County. . . . The Federal Power Commission has granted the Colorado
River Water Conservancy District the right to intervene at the special hearing by the Commission on May 23 when it will consider applications of the Rocky Mountain Power Company. The Commission also gave the Colorado Wildlife Federation, Inc., the right to intervene. Grand Junction, in order to comply with the 1965 order of Frederick W. Paddock, state engineer, has filed a petition in District Court seeking a change in point of diversion of water from the North Fork of Kannah Creek and has asked for a change in use from agricultural to municipal. Dr. Albert Szent-Gyorgyi, nutrition expert at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass., and a Nobel Prize winner, predicts someday humans "will have to kill and eat one another" if the world population continues to increase at the present rate. (The Daily Sentinel - Grand Junction, Colo.) Thomas W. McCurdy, of Olney Springs, has been sworn in as a new member of the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District Board. Colorado River Storage Project power sales soared to $6.8 million in 1965. The Bureau of Reclamation has appointed Dr. Archie M. Kahan, of Denver, as Chief, Office of Atmospheric Water Resources at the Bureau office in Denver. The Senate subcommittee on Public Works headed by Senator Edward S. Muskie (Maine) is expected to say that an outlay of $20 billion will be necessary for municipal waste treatment to bring the nation's waters up to desired quality. Water users of the Uncompahgre Project have approved borrowing $1 million from the Bureau of Reclamation to repair the Gunnison Tunnel. Wright Hiatt, of San Francisco has
been appointed as executive director of the Western States Water Council. . . . The Glenn Owen Construction Company submitted the low bid, in the amount of $48,700 to construct new headquarters for the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District on U.S. 50 West near Pueblo. . . . The U. S. Soil Conservation Service reports that two-inch thick concrete barriers, 36 inches deep, are effective in stopping erosion caused by water running into rodent burrows. . . .

Dr. William E. Morgan, president of Colorado State University, urged the U.S. Congress to broaden participation in a national water resources research program. He told members of the House Interior Committee the program would have more chance of being successful if extended to non-land grant colleges and universities. (Rocky Mountain News - February 15)

COMING EVENTS

1966 Western Resources Conference - July 5, 6 and 7 at the Colorado School of Mines, Golden. Tentative program - Ground Water, Coal and Natural Gas.