COLUMBIA WATER CONGRESS attendees in Wenatchee, Washington heard Dr. W. W. Gillam of the office of Saline Water explain his faith that the Western regional water problem would be solved by saying, "A generation that has seen the polar ice cap from underneath, the moon from behind, Mars headon and Jayne Mansfield sideways, surely isn't going to be stumped by even this complex matter." (Colorado River Association Newsletter, May, 1966)
- That the study on importation of water into the Colorado River from outside sources would be made by a national water commission. (The bill as proposed placed this study under the Secretary of the Interior.)

- That the Bridge Canyon Dam be deleted from the bill and that its authorization be deferred pending further study by the proposed national water commission.

- That authorization for Marble Canyon Dam be included in the bill.

- That authorization for the Animas - La Plata and the Dolores Projects in Colorado be included in the bill, and that the Dallas Creek, the San Miguel and the West Divide Projects in Colorado be deferred pending further feasibility studies by the proposed national water commission.

The compromise followed a week long questioning of witnesses by the forces of opposition. Questions were designed on a "divide and conquer" approach. Congressman Saylor of Pennsylvania persisted in questioning Upper Basin witnesses as to whether they would support the bill if provisions for a study on water imports were omitted. The Upper Basin stood pat and said NO. Congressman Thomas Foley of Washington attempted in his questioning to show that water imports are national problems not limited to just the Colorado River, and that a national water commission should be set up to study these problems. Foley suggested that the Colorado River import issue could be coordinated by a Colorado-Pacific regional commission, proposed to be created by the project bill.

Chairman Wayne Aspinall (Colo) of the House Interior Committee accused the Johnson administration of resorting to stalling tactics when it proposed that studies of water imports into the Colorado Basin be made by a national water commission. "This recommendation is just
a delay - that's all it amounts to," Aspinall said.

Conflicts over proposals for water from the Columbia River gained momentum when a large delegation from West Texas presented testimony that Texas be included in any study made on proposals to divert water into the Colorado River. Witnesses for West Texas said they would need about 15 million acre-feet of extra water over the next 10 years which could be supplied by exchange. On this point, the Colorado delegation expressed hope that with President Johnson's home state included in the import study, there may be a good chance for favorable action on the bill.

Congressman Aspinall said that the bill will emerge from his committee only on two firm conditions: (1) that the measure provide for a logical and responsible study on imports; (2) that all five Colorado projects be incorporated in the bill in accordance with Colorado policy.

J. R. Barkley, Loveland, chairman of the Colorado Water Congress, in an interview upon his return from the hearings, said, "All of the changes recommended in the compromise are major; and certainly Congress, the Colorado River Advisory Committee and the State of Colorado must take a new look before accepting them."

STATE WATER PLANNING IS A KEY TO COLORADO'S FUTURE

"IF COLORADO wants to continue to sit at the poker table with the federal government in the great game of water development, it must be backed up with a substantial pile of blue chips." This statement was
made by Harvey Banks, president of the engineering firm of Leeds, Hill and Jewett, Inc., San Francisco, in an interview following a speech given to a water research symposium held at Colorado State University on April 26 and 27. Banks warned that federal aid is conducive to federal control, and that the only way for the states to get the most out of their water resources and to maintain control over them is to put up some of the money required for development. "This calls for a state water plan, sufficiently staffed to formulate it and put it over," Banks said.

Banks cited as prime examples the $2 billion water plan put over by California and the $2 billion 25-year plan now being developed by the State of Texas. He said the Texas plan calls for all projects to be turned over to the state upon completion adding that, "Texas plans to sell the water and will sign the repayment contract with the federal government."

Speaking on research, Banks told the group in attendance that, "Research is critically needed in the field of planning and development, and that planning based on research must be within the framework of a long range concept.

"Research must be undertaken and plans developed to create a desirable community, even to the extent of being region-wide in some cases.

"There is no longer enough water to be wasted, and we must begin to plan for what can best be done to develop the whole community, as
the day is rapidly approaching where there will be definite water shortages if we continue our present techniques.

"We must critically analyze our water laws in light of present conditions and present economics. More realistic bases for federal subsidies must be developed. The concept of the farmer paying only what he can for water is obsolete and it must be updated. The whole field of governmental inter-relationship must be clearly defined showing both federal and state responsibilities.

"As to the sociological impact of water development, we must know what social changes will be set in motion, what will be the effect of a long time weather modification program, how to enhance the fish and wildlife and recreational values, and what is necessary to preserve water flows in streams for fish.

"Water engineers need a broader insight on the environment of the area in which they are involved, they must have an appreciation of the total picture, and above all they must know that to properly negotiate a state or region-wide water plan, there must be a little candy in it for everyone," Banks said.

NEW WATER LAWS PROPOSED

THE COLORADO WATER PROTECTIVE AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION headquartered in Lamar, Colorado, has recommended revisions in water laws passed by the 1965 session of the Legislature. These recommended revisions, which more specifically apply to H.B. 1066, were submitted to the Colorado Legislative Council on Water which met in Lamar on May 9.
Key proposals specify:

- That surface water shall be administered by the State Engineer in accordance with right of priority and in accordance with rules and regulations adopted after public hearings.

- That underground water be administered by the State Engineer in accordance with the right of priority and in accordance with rules and regulations adopted after public hearings, provided that:

  a. There shall be no restrictions on wells in operation on the date of the passage of the act.

  b. New wells shall be authorized if spaced ¼th mile or greater from present wells. Application for wells closer than ¼th mile from present wells shall be investigated to determine if senior rights will be injured before a permit is issued and use is allowed.

  c. If, after public hearings, it is found that the historical ground water is reduced as much as 50 percent, all underground water use shall be administered on a priority basis.

  d. Future underground water usage must be on land located above the aquifer from which it is drawn unless transported by a decreed surface water user.

- That violations be punishable by a fine not less than $100 or not more than $500 or by imprisonment up to 90 days, or both.

The association also recommended that the laws be changed to provide for all directors of water conservancy districts to be first appointed by the court, and thereafter their successors be elected by the tax paying electors of the county, or portions thereof, situated in the water conservancy district.

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In another action on the use of underground water, the directors of the Lower South Platte Water Conservancy District requested the State Engineer to refuse new well permits in the South Platte Basin.
until an administrative system is fully developed and until sufficient time has elapsed to fully evaluate this system, according to a report by Eric Wendt, secretary-treasurer of the district.

**ITEMS IN BRIEF**

Judge Dan Hughes, of Montrose, who has been Chairman of the National Advisory Board Council for Public Lands of the Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, has announced his retirement from this position. He will be succeeded by Gene Ethart of Glascow, Montana. Hughes won the Interior Department's Conservation Service Award in 1964.

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The Denver Union Stockyards Company announced that it is revising its method of operation from a private sale basis to an auction basis effective July 1, 1966. The stockyard facilities will be leased to an auction company who will operate under a contract with Denver Union. Dana Malchow, engineer and purchasing agent, said that Denver Union is one of the largest users of water in Denver, ($54,000 in 1964), and that the new arrangement should reduce water consumption to an estimated $25,000 per year.

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Senator Henry Jackson, of Washington, claims wide support for his Bill S. 3107 to establish a National Water Commission. He hopes to substitute this commission as the agency to study import provisions in the Central Arizona Project Bill (H.R. 4671). Supporters of the Central Arizona Project fear that a National Commission would not give top priority to Western water problems. (Colorado River Association Newsletter, April, 1966.)

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Congressmen Saylor (Penn) and Dingell (Mich) have introduced a Bill (H.R. 14176) to enlarge Grand Canyon National Park, reportedly to impede the construction of Bridge and Marble Canyon Dams which are proposed as a phase of the Central Arizona Project which would include five major projects in Colorado.

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The President, by proclamation, transferred the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration from Health, Education and Welfare to the Department of Interior, effective May 10.
State Senator David Hahn (Aurora), chief author of the State Pollution Control Law, told the Pollution Control Commission, "Your authority with respect to the waters of the State of Colorado is absolute and supreme." Hahn pointed out that the responsibility of the commission is to come up with standards of water quality by March 1, 1967 which shall be sufficiently rigid "to keep the Federal Government from stepping in."

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The Colorado Ground Water Commission, at its meeting in Wray, Colorado on May 13, took the following action relative to closed basin underground water use: (1) issued an order declaring the High Plains ground water area containing the majority of the Ogallala Formation as a Designated Ground Water Basin; (2) considered a request by Baca County interests that the southern portion of the High Plains area located in Baca County be studied to the end that it may be declared a Designated Ground Water Basin; (3) declared that it is in favor of the formation of a ground water management district in the major portion of Kit Carson County now included in the newly created High Plains Basin.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held in Monte Vista, Colorado on June 3 when it will hear reports relative to requests that portions of the San Luis Valley be designated as a Basin.

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The Arkansas Valley Ditch Association has named a seven-man committee proposed to meet regularly with a similar committee from the Colorado Water Protective and Development Association. The purpose of these meetings will be to work out agreements between the ditch association and the well user's group under which the state's new ground water law can be effectively administered in the Arkansas Valley.

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Ten claimants in the Arkansas Valley, among which is the Santa Fe Railroad, are preparing a million dollar claim against the Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department for alleged damages caused by the failure of the department's Clay Creek Dam near Lamar during the 1965 flood.

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The Colorado River Water Conservation District Board acted to oppose the integration of the Homestake and Fryingpan-Arkansas Projects in the vicinity of Leadville. The board also approved proceeding with its application to the Federal Power Commission for a preliminary permit.
for a hydro-electric plant on the South Fork of the White River and to oppose plans by the Rocky Mountain Power Company, Denver, for a power license at the same location.

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Work was stopped on Aurora's Rampart Range water tunnel, a part of the Homestake Project being constructed to deliver water from the Eagle River to Aurora and Colorado Springs. F. H. Linneman Company of Lakewood, general contractor building the tunnel, seeks a declaratory judgment and damages up to $2.3 million. The firm announced that work on the tunnel will not be resumed until the suit is settled. The dispute involves controversies over labor and other costs claimed by Linneman as resulting from unforeseen problems confronted in drilling the long 9%'-by-11¾'-foot tunnel. The suit charges Aurora and Bechtel Company, project engineers, with misrepresentation by failing to disclose necessary information and withholding excessive retainage. Colorado Springs water supply from the project is not affected by the dispute.

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The Senate Appropriations Committee has voted an emergency transfer of funds totaling $1.4 million to keep construction going on the key units of the Upper Colorado Storage Project until June 1, which includes Blue Mesa Dam on the Gunnison River. Congressman Wayne Aspinall has criticized the Administration for underfinancing water projects after they are authorized by Congress.

THROUGH THE WATER METER

The Holbrook Lake Sportsmen's Club at Swink has joined the sportsmen and businessmen from Prowers and Bent Counties in a multiple-county effort to obtain necessary water for a permanent pool at John Martin Reservoir on the Arkansas River. The Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department is seeking the names of any people in southeastern Colorado having water rights to sell that could be used for the pool. . . . State Attorney General Thomas C. Lynch, of California, warned the Colorado River Basin that final solution to the Southwest's water shortages depends on reaching an accord with the Pacific Northwest which is develop-
The board of the Colorado River Water Conservation District has approved a contract with Colony Development Company which would govern planning, financing, construction, and operation of the proposed Yeoman Park Reservoir in the Eagle area. Colony would participate in exchange for use of the water in extracting oil and chemicals from oil shale. Conservationist opposition to the building of Bridge and Marble Canyon Dams in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado has been carried to the classroom of the nation's schools by My Weekly Reader, an elementary school publication.

The Longs Peak Water Association reports the completion of $92,000 worth of plant improvements which will double the water output. The area serves residents in an 11-mile belt on both sides of Colorado 66 west of Interstate 25. August P. Gumlick, a 30-year member of the Denver Water Board, who died last January 31 at the age of 87, left an estate valued at $1,195,257 according to an inventory filed before Denver Probate Judge David Brofman. The Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District's Executive Committee has been designated as the interim management group for the district, following the death of Charles H. Boustein, district general manager. Paul H. Berg, assistant regional director for the Bureau of Reclamation, has been elected chairman of the U.S. Committee on Irrigation, Drainage and Flood Control. Rio Grande County Commissioners have cleared the way for a $63,000 Farmers Home Administration loan for a water and sewer system in Lariat, which adjoins Monte Vista on the south and
west. The U.S. Senate will investigate radioactive pollution of streams in the Colorado River Basin. Interior Secretary Udall said, "tough measures" are necessary to clean up the nation's major rivers. The Clyde and Jim Buffington ranch on Ohio Creek near Gunnison has been leased for ten years by Colorado State University for use in mountain meadow research. The ranch will provide long-time basic studies on problems in water management along with other studies. The Adams County Board of Commissioners asked County Attorney David Berger to investigate the legal aspects involved in the county, as a governmental unit, entering into the Four-Counties Water Users Association which proposes to import 55,000 acre-feet of water from the upper Yampa River into a Four-County area north of Denver. Denver Water Board is studying the proposal of the Denver Planning Commission requiring annexation wherever possible as a condition precedent to water service. A 20-year $660 million plan for converting a 10-mile strip of the Platte River through Denver into a beautiful complex has been submitted to Tom Currigan, Denver's mayor. The plan is contingent on the construction of the proposed Chatfield Dam above Littleton, Mount Carbon Dam east of Morrison, and Two Forks Dam above Waterton, all of which have flood control provisions. Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall announced an agreement with members of the Western Energy Supply and Transmission Associates (WEST), a group of western public and private electric utilities, for the development of a massive coal-fired steam electric generating and trans-
mission complex in the Southwestern United States. A proposal to consolidate all water resource activities within a single department has been made by President Johnson. Such a proposal is included in S. 2435 submitted by U.S. Senator Frank E. Moss (Utah) which would create a Department of Natural Resources. A $132,320 grant and a $145,880 loan to the City of San Luis, Colorado for a water and sewer system has been announced by the Farmers Home Administration.

Water History: Primitive water works date back to the Babylon, more than 5,000 years ago. Lake Moeris on the Nile was built before 2,000 B.C. as a water supply, supporting more than 20 million people. The Appia Aqueduct serving Rome was completed in 313 B.C. carrying 13.5 million gallons per day. King Solomon built a 10-inch earthen conduit, 12 miles long, to carry water from the Pools of Solomon to the Temple. (AWWA "Rumbles" - April, 1966)

NEWS AT DEADLINE

REPORTS from Game, Fish and Parks Department are that the Commission, after investigation, has cleared its engineer, E. L. Shaw, of charges of conflict of interest in the award of a contract for the construction of a warehouse at Meeker.