The West today is swarming with a new population which is finding a land threatened with overcrowding. This is not desirable. Nevertheless, the West must expect to accommodate an added population. I see no prospect for, and I hope there never will be, a decree under our democratic form of government that forces me to live in any predetermined location. To meet this accommodation of new population and at the same time save the natural aspects of the West will require careful planning and management." (Ellis Armstrong, Commissioner, USBR, Denver, January 15, 1971)
James L. Ogilvie, manager of the Denver Water Department, speaking before the Board, reported that when Denver completes its decreed water right development from the Eagle-Piney and East Gore collection systems and proposed use of rights in Bear Creek it should be in a position to meet the water demands of Denver until the year 2008 at which time it may need to have in operation a system of reuse to support continued growth.

He said Two Forks Reservoir is an essential facility for storage and regulation of diverted water. In answer to a question put by State Engineer Kuiper, Ogilvie said Two Forks Reservoir could also be used for upstream storage to increase the use of underground water in the South Platte Basin by exchange.

Sam Maynes, attorney for the Southwestern Water Conservation District, presented a resolution adopted by the district board of directors which urges the Colorado General Assembly and the Colorado Water Congress to provide funds to assist the Colorado Water Conservation Board in the event the State of Colorado becomes involved in a lawsuit now before the District Court in Washington, D.C. The suit seeks an injunction prohibiting additional storage of water in Lake Powell to prevent water encroachment within the boundaries of Rainbow Bridge National Monument. It is reported that the plaintiffs, Sierra Club, et al, will also seek state funds.

COLORADO WATER OFFICIAL WINS AWARD

J. R. Barkley, manager of the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, was presented the "Headgate Award" for Colorado by the Four-States Irrigation Council meeting in Denver on January 14 and 15 at the Denver Federal Center. Each year the award is presented for distinguished service in the fields of irrigation and conservation. Other winners
include: Floyd Freeborn, Cedar, Kansas; Arthur C. Splattstoesser, Red Cloud, Nebraska; and Floyd H. Pease of Torrington, Wyoming.

Barkley is a member of the Executive Committee of the Colorado Water Congress and is Colorado's director on the Board of Directors of the National Water Resources Association.

James L. Ogilvie, manager, Denver Water Department, in his lead off address to more than 150 delegates at the meeting, said "water as a commodity has an advantage over many other natural resources. It can be used and reused many times and the non-consumed portion is always available. How much society is willing to pay for the reclamation process is the basic question."

On this issue, Ogilvie announced the Denver Water Department has installed a pilot plant at the Denver Municipal Sewage Disposal Works to study ways and means of treating sewage effluent to make it reusable in the Denver municipal water system. "The purpose of the study," Ogilvie said, "is to put Denver in a position of meeting its water demands when existing raw water supplies become inadequate." The pilot plant is being operated in conjunction with the University of Colorado Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

On the subject of environment, Ogilvie said "the primary point to be made is the necessity of becoming involved in other fields in order to secure interest and support in fields relating to water development.

"Continued research is absolutely necessary for developing advance methods in reclaiming fresh water sources which we pollute through day to day practices."

Elwood Seaman, assistant commissioner-ecology, Bureau of Reclamation, speaking at a luncheon meeting, deplored the rash of untruths and emotional
propaganda being circulated throughout the nation in the name of environment. He cited as an example a recent television production which depicted the plight of the world's vanishing wildlife. He referred to a scene in the film showing a mother polar bear purportedly being killed by trophy hunters using a helicopter and showing her two little cubs wandering off into the distance. "This implication was an outright falsehood," Seaman said, "as in actuality this portion of the film was clipped from a Department of the Interior picture which was made to record the tagging operations and migration studies of the polar bear." The bear, instead of being killed, was actually immobilized by a tranquilizer gun. The bear was later revived and allowed to rejoin her cubs, he said.

"Pessimism in the solution of ecological problems has no place in the American approach. It can only generate fear. We must continue to adjust and readjust our perception if we are to develop speedy and successful solutions to our environmental problems."

Tom Ten Eyck, director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, also speaking at a luncheon meeting, called upon the irrigators in attendance to take a long look toward the future of land and water use. He predicted the day would eventually come when a landowner would only hold custody of the land, and he would be required to use it only for beneficial purposes in accordance with strict environmental controls.

Ellis Armstrong, commissioner, USBR, in a press conference, pledged an all out effort by the Bureau of Reclamation in incorporating the environmental and social problems of the West in future plans and programs of the Bureau. He cited the West Wide Water Plan now underway as an example. He also said weather modification studies have been carried to the point where it can be predicted that weather modification can be economically feasible.
The Council elected these officers to serve for the ensuing year: Glen Graf, Norton, Kansas, president; R. D. Dirmeyer, Holdrege, Nebraska, vice president; L. E. Whitman, Torrington, Wyoming, secretary-treasurer; and James M. Ingles, director, Region 7, USBR, Denver, as director at large.

OVER EMPHASIS ON ECOLOGY DISCOURAGED

"THE EMOTIONAL AND PRECIPITOUS ACTION urged by self-styled and instant ecologists is the greatest danger we now face," according to Donald A. Spencer, consulting ecologist for the National Agricultural Chemical Association and former biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, speaking to more than 200 delegates at the 26th annual meeting of the Colorado Association of Soil Conservation Districts in Denver on January 5th.

Spencer called for normalcy and cited the great advances made by agriculture in the production of food crops, and the efforts of conservation agencies and associations over the recent decades which have contributed to the improvement of the environment.

Spencer credited the use of pesticides as contributing not only to the large increase in food production but also to the large increase in wildlife populations since the turn of the century. He lauded the efforts of soil conservation districts over the past decades in initiating soil conservation practices, construction of farm impoundments, shelter belts and other conservation practices, all of which have improved the environment.

Robert B. Finley, chief, Wildlife Section, Denver Wildlife Research Center, writing in the Denver Post, January 10, 1971, called Spencer's statements on pesticides "a flagrant example of illogical propaganda."
Finley questioned Spencer's general knowledge of ecology on the grounds that his government experience was limited to the control of predatory mammals. "I agree with him that it's often necessary to control pests, but I think there is a greater need to control deceptive propaganda."

**ITEMS IN BRIEF**

Robert F. Welborn, Denver attorney and principal architect of the 1969 Water Right Act (SB 81), has published a bulletin designed to explain the background, objectives, philosophy and particular concepts of the Act. He discusses administration of the Act and a hint on the future. Copies can be obtained by addressing a request to Stan Elofson, principal analyst, Legislative Council, State Capitol, Denver, Colorado.

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Congressman Wayne Aspinall (Colo.), chairman of the House Interior Committee, recently announced "some new water projects should be authorized during the 1971 session of Congress, but their costs should total only about one-half of the amount of money requested." He said his committee plans to follow the procedure of authorizing fewer projects for the next two years in order to reduce the backlog. (Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, December 30, 1970).

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The federal government will impose strict control over the amount and type of wastes that industrial plants may discharge into the nation's waterways, according to an executive order recently signed by President Nixon. The order requires industries to obtain federal permits before dumping chemicals or other pollutants into the nation's inland waterways or coastal water within a three-mile limit. The presidential order invokes an Act passed in 1899 which provides for fines of $2,500 for each violation and up to $10,000 a day for violators that continue in the face of court injunctions.

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The U.S. Senate has confirmed the appointment of William D. Ruckelshaus as chief of the newly created Environmental Protection Administration which will coordinate the nation's attack on environmental pollution. Ruckelshaus was formerly U.S. assistant attorney general for the civil division. At his meeting before the Senate Committee he told the Senators he favored a strong federal effort against pollution. The new agency has a $1.4 billion budget.

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Colorado Wildlife Federation, at its annual meeting in Denver on January 11, adopted a resolution authorizing and directing its board of directors to take every possible step in obtaining congressional action
on the designation of the South Fork of the White River as a "National Wild River", and the North Fork of the White River and the main stem of the White River below its confluence with the South Fork as "National Scenic Rivers". This proposal will concern those interests which have filed on water development projects on both tributaries of the River which include projects planned by the Colorado River Water Conservation District, the Rocky Mountain Power Co., and the Yellow Jacket Project which is being studied by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

THROUGH THE WATER METER

The Colorado Environmental Commission is recommending the passage of legislation which would limit the future population of the Denver metropolitan area to 1.5 million persons. The commission also recommends the passage of a Colorado Environmental Policy Act which would increase the Commission's control over the use of the environment. . . U.S. Corps of Engineers approved a $50,000 allocation for bank protection on the west bank of the South Platte River north of Denver. . . U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has put the first two electric power generators in the Morrow Point Dam on the Gunnison River into operation. John J. Bugas, general manager of the Colorado Ute Electric Association, and Leo Deguire, project power manager, pressed the buttons to start the water flowing through the 60,000 kilowatt turbine. . . A committee appointed by Tom Ten Eyck, director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, headed by J.F. Jelley, Colorado Springs, and Chairman of the Colorado Water Pollution Control Commission, recommends that for the time being the state of Colorado stay out of the sewage utility business. The committee report said such a program would entail a large immediate expenditure which would provide no distinct advantage. . . U.S. Sen. Henry M. Jackson (Wash.), chairman of the Senate Interior Committee, announced he plans to introduce legislation to set aside natural areas for scientific purposes. (Western Water News, December, 1970) . . . The College of Engineering at the University of Colorado is inviting applications from engineering graduate
students interested in the study of water resources research. For additional information write to Dr. J. Ernest Flack, director, Water Resources Training Program, Engineering Center, OT 4-34, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado 80302 . . . The Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District has agreed to be the contracting agency for a feasibility study of a huge pipeline to carry pretreated, filtered water from the Pueblo Reservoir to communities throughout the Arkansas Valley. The Colorado Water Conservation Board, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the Four-Corners Commission will participate in the study. Adolph Coors Company of Golden outbid the city of Arvada for the water rights of the Wannemaker and Juchem ditches which originally served the Ridge Home and Training School near Arvada and had not been used in recent years. The Coors bid was $140,000 for 120 inches of water (38.4 inches equals one second-foot). The water rights had an assessed valuation of $62,400 . . . Environmental opposition is developing over the construction of water storage projects on the Green River in Wyoming. Proponents of the plan claim the projects are necessary to assure Wyoming will receive its share of the water allocated under the Colorado River Basin Compact . . . Three coal-fired electric generating plants are being planned in the Yampa River Valley as a joint venture between the Public Service Co. of Colorado, Colorado Ute Electric Association and other entities in Arizona and Utah. The plants are proposed to produce nine times the electric energy now produced at the Hayden plant near Hayden . . . Secretary of Agriculture Clifford N. Hardin maintains the Department of Agriculture is best qualified to carry out the Nixon Administration pledge to clean up the nation's land, air and water. (Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, January 1, 1971).