

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Rogers Aston\*

ENTHUSIASM IS A DYNAMIC FORCE - ACCOMPLISHMENT IS BASED ON, AND DRAWS ITS STRENGTH FROM THIS VITAL FORCE. We must realize that the results of such a force are CORRELATED TO THE DEGREE OF KNOWLEDGE DIRECTING THIS ENTHUSIASM...ACTION BASED ON IGNORANCE can be WELL INTENTIONED, but none the less, NON-CONSTRUCTIVE or even DESTRUCTIVE...The first prerequisite of constructive action is KNOWLEDGE...KNOWLEDGE VITALIZED BY ENTHUSIASM AND DEDICATION WILL INEVITABLY RESULT IN ACCOMPLISHMENT.

The water problems of the State of New Mexico and those of our great country are vastly complex. The more one works with the facts underlying our water problems, the more keenly aware he becomes of the scope and complexity involved. GENERALITIES CAN OFFER NO REAL SOLUTION...NO HARD AND FAST ENGINEERING FORMULA CAN GIVE THE COMPLETE AND FINAL ANSWER. There is one absolute physical law concerning water that cannot be denied...WE MUST PHYSICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY HAVE WATER IF WE ARE TO SURVIVE!! In the end result, WATER IS WORTH WHAT WE HAVE TO PAY FOR IT!!!

Did you know that your own body is approximately 71 percent water? You can lose nearly all of your body fats and one-half of the protein from your body and survive. If you LOSE A TENTH OF THE WATER CONTENT OF YOUR BODY, YOU WILL DIE.

Industrial and population growth in the state and nation are throwing vast demands on our limited water supplies. The population in the United States is expected to almost DOUBLE IN THE NEXT 42 SHORT YEARS.

THE DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMEN WHOM I SHALL BE PRIVILEGED TO INTRODUCE THIS AFTERNOON WILL GIVE YOU MUCH INFORMATION REGARDING OUR WATER PROBLEMS AND THEIR POSSIBLE SOLUTION... Before introducing them I should like to make one or two concrete suggestions.

1. New Mexico needs an INTEGRATED WATER STUDY:
  - (a) The preparation of a comprehensive index of all studies and reports now on hand.
  - (b) An impartial study of New Mexico water problems, including an accurate inventory of its surface and underground water resources.

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- (c) An estimate of present and future water requirements.
  - (d) An outlining of a comprehensive and effective water conservation program.
2. The United States needs a NATIONAL WATER INVENTORY to determine integrated composite water situation. Such an inventory to be undertaken on a NON-PARTISAN BASIS, WITH FULL RECOGNITION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY, PRIVATE OWNERSHIP, REGULATED FREE ENTERPRISE, SELF GOVERNMENT AND JUSTICE.
3. We must and will support all worthwhile experimentation on technical solutions to our water problem. The DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS on this afternoon's program will discuss some promising areas of research. I should like to list a few general categories if I may:
- (a) Desalinization
  - (b) Conservation and Evaporation Control
  - (c) Climate Control
  - (d) Redistribution and Exchange
  - (e) The Application of Atomic Power
4. We must UTILIZE ONE OF OUR COUNTRY'S MOST FERTILE SOURCES OF ACTION - The inquisitive, vital and capable minds of our youth. One of the most effective ways that we can insure an informed and aware youth would be through the establishment of a CHAIR OF WATER. This CHAIR OF WATER should offer instruction in the physical, historical and international field of water. It should cover the economic, legal and engineering facts concerning water. A graduate from this special field of water study should receive a special degree designating him as qualified to deal with water problems. I suggest that New Mexico set the example by the establishment of such a CHAIR OF WATER.

Great electronic computers or "Brains" have been developed in recent years that challenge the comprehension. These great scientific strides still fall short of achieving one function reserved to the human mind! THE ABILITY TO DREAM AND IMAGINE...GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE FUTURE DEPEND ON GREAT IMAGINATION!!! The FIELD OF IMAGINEERING IS OPEN TO US ALL!!

Let's Dream Big! It is time for POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE THINKING - TIME FOR FAITH IN THE FUTURE, BUT FAITH WITH ITS WORKING CLOTHES ON, the dynamic and positive force of IMAGINEERING.

The speakers I am privileged to introduce on behalf of the Water Resources Council are examples of such VISION based on the practical knowledge to PUT THIS VISION TO WORK...