

Harold B. Elmendorf.

FOREWORD

The papers included in this publication were presented in a staff and graduate seminar conducted by the Agricultural Economics Department of New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts during the period January 26 to May 24, 1956.

The purpose of the seminar was to bring in well qualified men who would present various phases of the New Mexico water problem and assist in the discussions. The hope was that these seminar discussions would inform the A & M staff members and graduate students of the various phases of New Mexico's water problems so they may be in a better position to assist in the solution of these problems.

Speakers came from the following: Elephant Butte Irrigation District; State Engineer's Office; Soil Conservation Service; Forest Service; Agricultural Research Service; U. S. Geological Survey; Army Engineers; Bureau of Reclamation; Civil Engineering and Agricultural Economics Department of New Mexico A & M A.

Among the general topics discussed were: 1. Supply of water, 2. review of water studies conducted in New Mexico, 3. underground water, 4. watershed control, 5. water yield from forest and rangelands, 6. interstate compacts, 7. new irrigation proposals, 8. water supply and cost of water for irrigation, 9. Costs of operating a project, 10. uses of water for other than irrigation, 11. flood control.

The discussions of the above problems brought out the complexity of the entire water situation. It pointed out how all interested, including agriculture, industry, recreation, armed services and all others, are vitally concerned with working out the best possible use of our limited water supply. With the assistance of the river compacts, New Mexico and the states of Texas, Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona and California are working toward proper allocation of stream flows.

The water seminar attracted considerable state wide attention. Many people indicated an interest in attending the seminars. Others asked for any reports which might be available from the meetings. As a result, New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts is sponsoring a state-wide water conference. The dates for the Conference are October 31, November 1 and 2, 1956.

This publication is being mimeographed for limited distribution for reference purposes.

H. R. Stucky, Head
Department of Agricultural Economics
New Mexico College of A & M A

September 17, 1956