

FOREWARD

The Water Conference Advisory Committee and the University Committee will miss President Roger Corbett, both as President of New Mexico State University and his presence for at least a part of each and every one of the fifteen conferences, and his participation in many of the conference committee meetings. A plaque was presented to Dr. Corbett by the Fifteenth Annual Conference in appreciation for his many contributions.

The Fifteenth Annual New Mexico Water Conference is now history and the planning for the Sixteenth is well underway.

There has been a great change in the public awareness of the total water problem, both in New Mexico and in the Nation, during the years spanned by these annual conferences - 1955 through 1970.

The Congress of the United States has passed a series of important bills to assist in education, research, demonstration, development and conservation and use, in the broad fields of supply and quality of our national water resources. Several state legislatures have also taken numerous important steps to help implement state, county, city and rural community programs.


Most of these programs have been started since 1965 and are beginning to bear the first fruits expected from them. During the period 1970 to 1980, further great changes in public awareness are expected. The social and political problems will be brought forward as the environmental and ecological emphasis is applied, along with the traditional engineering and economic planning and development. The social phases will more and more become a part of the early planning rather than reactions, in some cases emotional and/or violent, when the public becomes aware of the developing or developed plans.

The state-wide Water Conference Advisory Committee and the University Committee have recommended that a major section of the Sixteenth Annual Conference be devoted to student papers in several disciplinary areas and from several universities in the Southwest. This should be a stimulating program.

This Proceedings issue brings together a wealth of information and viewpoints on the water program in New Mexico and the Nation, thanks to the several speakers.

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The program which follows will serve as an index to the papers.



H. R. Stucky, Chairman
Water Conference Committee



ROGER B. CORBETT
PRESIDENT

Dr. Roger B. Corbett, who has been President of New Mexico State University since 1955 will retire in August 1970. He was given a plaque by the Fifteenth Annual Water Conference in recognition of his sincere concern regarding the water problems of New Mexico and the Southwest and for his strong support of each of the Annual New Mexico Water Conferences.