

# COLORADO RIVER PACT THOT NEAR BY ARIZONA HEAD

and California accusing this state of selfish obstruction. At one time, Arizona sent national guard troops to Parker to halt construction of Parker dam, and subsequently was sustained in the action by the U. S. supreme court.

## Friendly Relations Between Basin States Presage Amicable End

PHOENIX, Ariz., June 24. (U.P.)—Increasingly friendly relations between Colorado river basin states presage amicable settlement of the vexatious river water problem which once led to "war" between Arizona and California, Attorney General John L. Sullivan told the United press today.

"Within the past few months, more friendly relations have developed between California, Nevada and Arizona," he said. "California, for the first time, has begun to realize that it is to her advantage as well as ours to settle the Colorado river problem speedily and amicably in order to prevent the river's water being lost from the United States forever.

"THEY EVEN see the necessity of a lawsuit in the United States supreme court to adjudicate finally, for all time, the rights of the Colorado basin states to water of the river."

Sullivan's statement was made following the departure of James R. Moore, special assistant attorney general, for Washington, D. C., on a two-fold mission.

Moore, Sullivan said, is charged with:

1. Compiling data which Arizona will use in filing a "friendly" lawsuit against California and Nevada in United States supreme court to secure permanent adjudication of water rights on the Colorado.

2. Renewing and increasing "diplomatic relations" with representatives of other states and federal officials and attempting to secure their support for Arizona's request for federal financing of the huge Gila-Parker reclamation project in southwestern Arizona.

"WE HAVE high hopes that all this bickering between states over the Colorado will be ended," the attorney general said. "Arizona believes, and hopes to convince other states that, after all, the problem is not political but national.

"Arizona, as a state, will benefit little even if she is granted the water she believes is hers and is granted federal financing of the Parker-Gila reclamation project. As a matter of fact, 90 per cent of the land in the proposed reclamation district is federal-owned, and Arizona's only interest in it is in her sovereign rights as a state.

"ARIZONA IS anxious to keep the Colorado's water in the United States, rather than allow it to flow south into Mexico."

Sullivan said Colorado and federal officials also had shown understanding of Arizona's standpoint recently, and had pledged their cooperation in securing a friendly settlement.

Until comparatively recently, California and Arizona were bitter over the Colorado problem, Arizona accusing the golden state of attempting to appropriate more than its share of Colorado water,