

UPPER COLORADO BASIN IN ACCORD IN BODAM BATTLE

Will Present United
Front in Demand For
\$500,000 Revenue

WASHINGTON, June 12. —

(UP)—For the first time during the present Boulder Dam power crisis, the upper basin states of the Colorado River basin joined forces to prevent enactment of any legislation affecting the project that does not give the upper basin a guaranteed annual income of \$500,000.

Senators and congressmen from all four states met at the call of Governor Blood of Utah who is directing the fight, and reached their decision to stand out for what they believe is their rightful due from the revenues of the project.

OF EQUAL IMPORTANCE in the battle was an informal agreement of the members of the majority of the members of the house rivers and harbors committee to write no Boulder dam legislation into the Bonneville bill that changes the terms and purport of the Boulder dam act or the Colorado river compact, unless all the states which signed the compact are in accord on the amendment, and agree to its adoption by congress.

The theory of the rivers and harbors committee was briefly that the Boulder dam act was based upon the compact, which congress itself had approved; that the compact was a solemn agreement among the signatory states; that therefore it would be unfair for congress to change the terms of provisions of the compact without the explicit approval of every state that had become a party to that agreement.

AS THE SITUATION stands today, the upper basin states, and not California, intend to do the dictating. A week ago Congressman Ford of California told the upper basin states they would take the Boulder dam amendment as California had written it; that California was able to force its amendment through congress. Now the upper basin delegations, having been brought together for the first time through the efforts of Governor Blood, have united in demanding some immediate benefits from the Boulder dam surplus revenue fund before they will agree that California shall be granted a reduction in interest rate or a reduction in power cost. And the policy outlined by the rivers and harbors committee on its face seems to mean that California will have to get the approval of all upper basin states if it hopes to secure favorable action on the legislation it is demanding.