

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO OPPOSE SLICES IN DAM REVENUE

2-14-38
"Ready and Willing" to
Co-Operate With Ne-
vada to Protect Rights

MURDOCK IS LEADER

State Legislatures Must
Agree to Changes In
Present Legislation

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14.
(UP)—Arizona stands ready
to join with Nevada in bat-
tling any attempt on the part
of the city of Los Angeles to
reduce or eliminate revenues
guaranteed the two states
from Boulder Dam power in
lieu of taxation.

Senators Hayden and Ash-
urst and Congressman John
R. Murdock warned that they
would oppose any legislation
adversely affecting their
state's rights under the Boul-
der Canyon project act.

Noting a statement by Senator
Key Pittman of Nevada that both
states lose the revenues guaran-
teed in the act if legislation be-
ing drafted by the interior de-
partment were enacted, the three
Arizonians declared they would
unanimously oppose such a pro-
gram.

"IF SUCH LEGISLATION
should be introduced," said Sen-
ator Ashurst, "and if it should
be injurious to our state, the
Arizona delegation will spend all
its strength in opposing the same.

Senator Hayden said the dele-
gation was "ready and willing"
to cooperate with Nevada con-
gressmen "to protect the interests
of the two states."

Congressman Murdock issued
a fighting statement in which he
declared: "While I should like to
see conditions liberalized for us-
ers of Boulder dam power, in
order to equalize industrial pos-
sibilities among Boulder dam,
TVA, and the big new projects
in the far northwest, I certainly
will not stand for this at the ex-
pense of Arizona or any other
Colorado basin state.

"Californians conferring with
the interior department in an
effort to obtain liberalized terms,
base their arguments on the fact
that TVA and the northwestern
projects can offer cheaper power
on the basis of lower costs of
construction and lower interest
rates."

POINTING OUT that the pres-
ent contracts have a number of
years to run, and that a change
prior to the termination date can-
not be made without the consent
of the state legislatures, Murdock
said: "I don't presume to speak for
the Arizona legislature. I am in
accord with the position of the
Nevada delegation so far as I un-
derstand their position, and I am
cooperating with them in an ef-
fort to protect the equity of Ari-
zona, exactly as I believe they're
endeavoring to protect the equity
of Nevada."

Murdock said he had no opin-
ion to express on the suggestion
that Arizona be given a specified
sum of money in lieu of its pres-
ent allocation of 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent
of surplus revenues from sale
of the power. He said that also
was a matter for the state legis-
lature to pass upon.