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Ex-Wyoming governor championed growth

Ford taps Stan Hathaway for Interior

by Bruce Hamilton

"I don't know a man in the country who's more knowledgeable about our resources than Stan," said Utah Gov. Calvin L. Rampton on the nomination of former Wyoming governor Stanley K. Hathaway for Secretary of Interior.

"It is rather like appointing W.C. Fields to run a day care center on Typhoid Mary to be Surgeon General," read a *New York Times* editorial on the nomination.

"Under his (Hathaway's) direction, Wyoming has taken the lead among western states in establishing clean air and water standards and was the first state in the region to require restoration of land disturbed by mining activity. Does this sound like a pillager of the land?" a *Casper Star-Tribune* editorial countered.

"Mr. Hathaway compiled a dismal environmental record as governor of Wyoming. He was strongly for rapid development of the state's natural resources, heedless of the impacts of such development upon the land and people of Wyoming, and heedless of the need for conservation of public resources," wrote the Wilderness Society, Friends of the Earth, Environmental Action, the Environmental Policy Center, the Fund for Animals, and the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs in a telegram to President Gerald R. Ford.

Sen. Clifford P. Hansen (R-Wyo.) told the *Deseret News* that he felt replacing Secretary of Interior Rogers C.B. Morton with Hathaway would be a "step forward," because Morton tended to reflect environmentalist concerns. "By this I don't mean to imply that former governor Hathaway isn't concerned," Hansen added. He said Hathaway "might better understand the practicalities, the goals of energy self-sufficiency, and that many western energy lands can be used for many purposes."

"Gov. Hathaway, as Secretary of Interior, will make Mr. Morton look like Ralph Nader," a Wyoming conservationist told the *New York Times*.



The Secretary of the Interior is the President's highest advisor and administrator in natural resource and public land matters. National parks, endangered species of animals, and coal resources on public lands are just a few of the matters the secretary is responsible for.

Beginning April 21 the Senate Interior Committee and then the full Senate will consider Hathaway for this highly influential post. The senators will wade through rhetoric and regional chauvinism, fiction and fact in an attempt to discover the abilities, biases, and suitability of the candidate. The Senate's final vote will be a critical decision for the future of America.

HUMBLE ROOTS

To understand Hathaway, one has to understand the history of Wyoming. The two are inextricably entwined.

Hathaway was born in Osceola, Neb., but came to live with his first cousin's family in the tiny farming community of Huntley, Wyo., when his mother died in 1928. He spent most of his life in rural eastern Wyoming except for time spent in Europe during World War II and time at the University of Nebraska, where he earned his law degree. Hathaway served as county and prosecuting attorney in Goshen County, Wyo., and became Republican state chairman in 1963.

When Hathaway entered state politics, Wyoming was losing population. "The kindest thing you could

give a young person upon graduation from high school or college was a bus ticket to Los Angeles, Seattle, or other points east or west where the job prospects were brighter," according to the *Casper Star-Tribune*. Hathaway sought to change all that. He ran for governor in 1966 pledging new industry and new jobs. His campaign called for no state severance tax on minerals because he wanted to encourage industry. The voters gave him their confidence.

PROMOTIONAL ZEAL

New jobs and economic growth became an obsession with Hathaway. During his first term he led "Wyoming ambassadors" to the nation's business centers seeking light and heavy industry and espousing the treasures of the Cowboy State — timber, water, trona, coal, gas, uranium, oil shale.

"Give me your assistance in the advocacy I have for free enterprise which has made this nation the marvel of history. Business and industry thrive only in the absence of punitive, unfair, and discriminating legislation," he said in his 1967 State of the State Address.

In his promotional zeal, Hathaway ran up against conservationists who saw Wyoming's greatest resources as clear skies, clean water, and untrammeled wild lands. Tom Bell, then-editor of the *High Country News*, suggested in 1971 that Hathaway was "selling our birthright for a gaggle of smokes-tacks."

Hathaway's response to such charges, as epitomized in his address to the Wyoming Beer Wholesalers Association in 1971 was, "One half of the people in our state would like to see it lose population, and the other half would like to see it grow with quality. I wouldn't be governor today if I did not care about the environment. Four years ago, people screamed about towns losing people, and today it seems as if many of our citizens care more about prairie dogs than people. . . . Man cannot live by pure air and water alone."

One of Hathaway's biggest complaints was the establishment of wilderness areas in Wyoming. He believed that such designation "locked up" extractable resources. "When are we going to stop looking for new wilderness areas? You could turn my whole state into a wilderness area, and then nobody could make a living," he told the U.S. Forest Service at the 1969 Western Governors' Conference in Seattle, Wash.

"QUALITY GROWTH"

Before the late '60s Wyoming had had oil, gas, and coal boom towns, but no industrial development of the magnitude experienced in the rest of the country. When the state did begin to experience rapid growth, it coincided with an environmental

(Continued from page 4)

Wilderness

"We could turn my whole state into a wilderness area, but somebody has to make a living there," Hathaway told the Western Governors' Conference in July 1969. (DENVER POST, 7-69)

Hathaway's criticism of more wilderness, as explained in a July 23, 1973, letter to William Lucas, Regional Forester of the U.S. Forest Service, was that "the expansion of wilderness areas in a state which already has vast acreages dedicated to wilderness and primitive area preservation, restricts the use of these lands to a tiny fraction of the public. . . . Wilderness areas remain only for the vigorous and strong, the adventurous and intrepid citizens. . . ."

He also opposed wilderness in established national parks. Testifying against wilderness in Grand Teton National Park, he said he didn't understand why the Park Service wanted wilderness "when it now had the management tools to keep the area unspoiled."

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HIGH COUNTRY

By Jane Bell

John Cole, editor of *Maine Times*, has a fertile, innovative mind not unlike Dave Brower's. I believe it was Cole who spawned the term "post-industrial age." At least it was in his writings in *Maine Times* that I was first exposed to the term and the concept.

If I interpret his concept correctly, a post-industrial society is one in which we use the best the industrial society has to offer but with a minimum of waste of materials and resources. It means taking ideas, inventions, concepts, systems, and a wonderful array of technological developments and putting them to work for the benefit of a society which has heretofore been unrealized. But it also means a revolution in man's present-day thinking.

It means turning away from the Gross National Product as the yardstick for a great country's success. It means a wholesale rejection of the philosophy that bigger is better and that more is blessed while quality is sacrificed.

The present-day automobile industry, with its ramifications throughout the whole economic system, is the epitome of that which must give way to something better. Following closely and gaining momentum in our society are the giant utilities, both private and quasi-public.

The basis of both these industries, and their strangle-hold on the American system, is an abundance of cheap energy. The cheap energy resulted, for the most part, from the unrestrained exploitation of abundant natural resources, cheaply obtained at the expense of the environment. Now that has all changed. Most of the best hydroelectric sites are already behind dams. A new national strip-mining act will curb the selfish interests of the coal mining industry. Most of the oil upon which we depend lies not in Alaska or off-shore but under the sands of the Middle East.

Add to these the new public concern for the safety factors in nuclear power, for air pollution from burning huge amounts of coal (low-sulfur notwithstanding), for the unmitigated disasters attendant upon a full-blown oil shale industry, and for the social disruptions which accompany the boom-town complexes of new energy centers.

All of these call for a new turn of mind on the part of the American public and our leaders. The old ways are doomed whether we like it or not. Society must get in step with the times now upon us or our system of government could be destroyed.

Thus, it was with a great deal of shock that I learned former Wyoming Gov. Stanley K. Hathaway is the leading contender for Secretary of the Interior. Through eight years of state rule, he proved himself the antithesis of the kind of leadership now required in that post.

Hathaway would fit nicely into a cabinet of the Warren G. Harding presidency. He is an unalloyed advocate of big business and all it has ever stood for in the by-gone days of the industrial era. His decisions and his stands as governor were almost invariably for the special, moneyed interests over the greater public interest. His decisions in the powerful post as Secretary of the Interior could have far reaching ramifications for the future of this country.

He is a conservative in the strictest sense of the term, understandably winning the support of Sen. Barry Goldwater. As a conservative he fit well into the politics of Wyoming, 1966-1974. It is unlikely he could have won a third term as governor if he had tried. The like-minded conservative Republican who ran in his stead was thoroughly trounced at the polls by his Democratic opponent. Thus his policies would appear to have been repudiated in his own state.

Every state around Wyoming is now also governed by a Democratic governor, running from liberal to moderate in philosophy. Every one, with the

possible exception of Gov. Calvin Rampton of Utah, is expressing concern about the effects on their states of all-out energy resource development. Yet, as Secretary of the Interior, Hathaway could be expected to order just such development.

He could be expected to lift the ban on coal leasing on federal lands. He would assuredly encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to gear up for large scale diversions and deliveries of water from the Upper Colorado and Upper Missouri Rivers to the coal-rich areas of Montana, Wyoming, and North Dakota. He has been an outspoken advocate of oil shale development on federal lands.

Throughout his career as governor, he gave much lip-service but little weight to environmental con-

siderations. Far from being in the forefront of environmental matters, he always reluctantly gave ground on such public concerns as strip mining, air pollution problems, and large-scale diversion of water. He steadfastly defended clearcutting, unrestricted use of predator poisons, and the unrestricted use of the public lands by the livestock industry at the lowest fees.

Such a man and his prevailing philosophy would run counter to every principle embodied in an emerging post-industrial age. It is inconceivable that the American public would allow itself to be led backward by the appointment of Stanley K. Hathaway as Secretary of the Interior.



Sandhill cranes in the San Luis Valley of Colorado. Photo by George D. Andrews and courtesy of the Colorado Division of Wildlife.

Letters

HALF-TRUTHS ON HATHAWAY

Dear Editors:

This morning, April 7, 1975, I mailed my renewal subscription card and my check for \$10. Tonight I am writing to tell you to cancel my subscription and don't bother trying to cash my check because as soon as the bank opens tomorrow morning I will stop payment on the check.

You may be interested in knowing why I am doing this. In today's mail I received a flyer and a petition protesting Stan Hathaway's appointment to Secretary of Interior from V. Crane Wright using your mailing labels. I am sure you made enough money by selling your mailing list to offset the loss of my \$10.

The attached flyer protesting the Hathaway appointment is full of misleading statements, and half-truths in a calculated attempt to discredit an honest man.

Stan Hathaway is my friend and I will support him in any way I can in trying to get him confirmed as Secretary of Interior.

In the two or three years that I have been subscribing to the *High Country News* I knew that your paper was prejudiced but I accepted that for what it was. Your last efforts just went too far for me to continue to support your paper.

Sincerely yours,
John T. Goodier
Cheyenne, Wyo.

(Editors' note: the petitions were sent to HCN subscribers by Citizens for a Good Secretary of Interior. We have never sold our mailing list. We allowed it to be used gratis in this case, because we

knew some of our readers might want the opportunity to sign and distribute the petitions. The mailing was not sent to those readers who have asked us not to allow their names to be used for any outside mailings.)

INDUSTRIAL PUSHOVER

Dear People,

I am strongly opposed to President Ford's nomination of Stanley Hathaway for Secretary of the Interior. I think that the citizens of Wyoming are well aware of his record as Governor of this state, and I see no indication that he will not continue his support of industrial expansion at the expense of the environment. I think Mr. Hathaway would be a pushover of the industrial giants who are out to destroy our western way of life.

I encourage all the readers of the *High Country News* who feel the way I do to let President Ford and their Senators know before it is too late.

Sincerely,
Richard Anderson
Riverton, Wyo.

NEBRASKA, A NEIGHBOR

Dear Friends,

I can easily relate most of your articles to situations existing in or threatening my state. They are more valuable because Wyoming is a "neighbor." Similar material that comes from East Coast, West Coast, South, East Central simply does not have the impact because most of Nebraska is still "wide open spaces."

In fact, a recent joke was that Nebraska's Panhandle wanted to secede and join Wyoming.

Editorials



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Friday, April 11, 1975

Hurdles many for regional policy

Formation of the Western Governors' Energy Policy Office and the hiring of its director should give the people of this region hope for the future. It should mean that we can now guarantee that our resources will be developed wisely — or at least that we, the people to be affected, will have a strong voice in those decisions. Hopefully, we'll no longer have to live in fear that the gun slinger known as Uncle Sam, now arrogantly twirling his gun, will one day demand the dark treasures beneath our land, leaving the surface and the people in ruin.

Montana Gov. Thomas Judge expressed our potential power at the Western Governors' Conference in Billings last week, saying, "The governors of the West, by working closely with our congressional delegation, can represent the most significant political bloc since the southern states taught us how such things are done." From the applause that this remark elicited, it was evident that power is what the people want.

However, this power over our fate is only potential. The energy policy office is new, and the governors, as a group, have yet to prove their prowess — or their willingness — to serve the wishes of the people of the region.

Their first major decision is not a good sign. It is possible that William Guy, former governor of North Dakota, could use his recognized administrative abilities well to serve according to the wishes of the governors. However, environmentalists question the choice because of Guy's record of encouraging energy development in his own state. More ominously, it seems that this choice was based largely upon political connections rather than upon

actual qualifications for the job. In fact, it seems other candidates were not chosen because they knew too much about the subject and consequently might try to slip one over on the governors.

This is frightening if it foretells anything about how future decisions will be made. We would hope that, instead, decisions would be based upon a data bank of accurate information and upon public input. Perhaps to insure this, each governor should set up an advisory committee with a representative from agriculture, one from Indian tribes in the state, one from environmental groups, and one from industry. This would provide each governor with a constant source of advice, in addition to the public hearings suggested by one governor to obtain public input. A newsletter published by the Denver-based staff would be a good idea to keep the public aware of its work and would give more opportunity for citizens to help with decisions.

Another potential problem in decision-making will be whether all 10 governors can agree on any policies of consequence. Their attitudes toward energy development differ radically, from Montana Gov. Thomas Judge's coal export-only philosophy to Utah Gov. Calvin Rampton's pro-growth orientation. And their resources are diverse, from water-rich Nebraska to coal-laden North Dakota. Judge and Colorado Gov. Dick Lamm apparently originated the idea of the regional energy policy effort. By adding so many states to the effort, the governors have possibly added to the potential political clout. But have they sacrificed as a result the ability to come to consensus on anything beyond general statements opposing federal pre-emption of states' authority? Will Guy be a man who can help find meaningful middle ground?

This problem already emerged in the Old West Regional Commission when non-coal states opposed an allocation by the commission to aid boom towns in coal states.

To their credit, the governors at the Western Governors' Conference on Agriculture last week did arrive at a Statement of Concern to be delivered to President Gerald Ford. The statement defended states' rights but also called for approval of the federal strip mine bill and federal encouragement of energy conservation and alternative sources of energy. It also expressed several concerns for agriculture.

In the future, according to Judge, the governors intend to formulate policies and recommendations to the administration and the Congress on all energy issues affecting the Western states "instead of reacting to federal mandates." Both Judge and Apodaca emphasized the necessity for the federal government to allow states' regulations to be stronger than federal laws in such areas as air and water quality, industrial siting, and reclamation.

We hope that the states will now take this a step further and, to get the full benefit from their new

organization, standardize strong state regulations — at least within key states in the region. Presently, one argument against raising taxes or standards for industry in any one state is that the industries will all be driven to a neighboring state whose standards are more lax. Another disadvantage of the lack of conformity is that citizens of Wyoming, for example, who have insisted upon strong air quality regulations, still may have to breathe polluted air from Colorado, where there is a moratorium on stricter air regulations.

The region would benefit if the states would standardize severance taxes, strip mining regulations which protect landowners and alluvial valleys, water and air quality controls, industrial siting regulations which require impact statements and allow denial on the basis of social impact, and reclamation standards which allow no exploration unless reclamation is possible.

If the governors succeed in finding an acceptable means for decision making including public input, and if they reach agreement on policies to properly develop the resources of the region, they could become a formidable force in opposing federal policies which might threaten the future of the region. But then what will stop the federal government from withdrawing the federal funds which the new energy office depends upon? If the governors feel that there are any strings attached to the federal money, we support them in allocating state funds for the office instead.

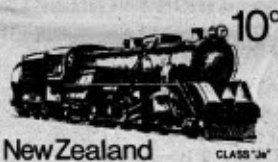
Despite our fears, our hopes are with the governors. The shifts being made in the President's cabinet may indicate that the administration is impatient to get on with Project Independence. The showdown is near. We hope that our region's power will be enough to convince Slinger Sam to choose cooperation rather than confrontation. —MJA

Stan wrong man for Interior post

During Stanley K. Hathaway's tenure in the governor's chair, Wyoming was transformed from a state famous for its unsurpassed wildlife, wilderness, and wide open spaces to a state notorious for its boom towns, social ills, and lax environmental standards that encouraged the siting of polluting industries within the state.

While serving as governor, Hathaway called for the sale of federal public lands to private, commercial interests, and requested special permits to allow private interests to gun down eagles. He authored legislation that would have set up state procedures for damming the scenic upper Green River and condemning parkland, public lands, and private lands in the process. Hathaway tried to weaken state air quality regulations, urged that no more wilderness be established in Wyoming, and supported efforts to have a jetport established in Grand Teton National Park.

Could we expect a better performance from him in Washington, D.C.?



Given topography and geographical removal from the "urban east" of the state, which now controls the legislature, maybe they weren't joking at all.

I have found in every issue something to add to my files on conservation, preservation, environmental matters now being treated (or ignored) by state government.

Yesterday I was ready to go out and promote subscriptions directly. Today I have a better idea, and hope instead to be ordering extra copies of issues which I can distribute to persons who have use for a specific article. My check is enclosed. Please send 10 copies of March 14 HCN to me for further distribution.

Dorris Marxhausen
Seward, Neb.

SEA WATER ENERGY

Dear High Country News,

Your News is most excellent, I especially liked your articles on Western coal, oil shale, geothermal energy, etc. etc. I would like to have an article about using sea water, the ocean, as an alternate source of energy. We put a man on the moon — why not research and action for energy? By the government?

I believe hydrogen, electrolyzed from sea water to be the best alternative. Because it could last for millions of years, longer than the earth has existed.

I hope to read an article soon in the High Country News about this source.

Very sincerely,
Mary Huntington
Denver, Colo.

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Hathaway...

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awareness revolution that swept the country in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The two trends posed a problem for Hathaway, a problem he tried to reconcile by advocating "quality growth."

"You can't sit in this chair without realizing two things," Hathaway said of the governorship. "One, you have to have revenue to support the costs of government, and you can only have that when the economy of the state is moving forward. Secondly, people have to have a job. If you don't have a job, your government problems are compounded. If there is a division between the environmentalists and me, that's it."

As other states and the federal government started to clamp down on polluting industries — notably coal-fired electrical generating plants — national attention shifted to Wyoming. The northeastern corner of the state was underlain with the nation's largest strippable coal reserve. And the region held no major population centers, which in many other states had generated complaints about energy development's attendant air pollution.

The federal government and the electric utilities drew up a scheme called the North Central Power Study calling for a ring of 10,000 megawatt power plants surrounding Gillette, Wyo., with other plants scattered throughout the region. Other plans were laid out to divert water the length of Wyoming from the Green River in the southwestern corner of the state to the Powder River in the northeastern corner of the state to supply the power plants' demands.

On the state level, Hathaway moved to pave the way for implementation of the plan. In 1970 the

governor called for variances in the state's air quality regulations for new industries siting in areas of low population (99% of the state), and for industries "necessary to the economic and social development of the state." In 1971 Hathaway proposed a bill, SF 124, which set up state procedures for damming the upper Green River and diverting the water across the state to the coal development centers. Both attempts were defeated.

Tom Bell warned that such massive coal development plans would turn the state into the Ruhr Valley of North America. And he feared that the "sad and sordid" history of strip mining in Appalachia would be repeated in Wyoming.

Hathaway expressed no fears about impending coal development. At the Federation of Rocky Mountain States conference in Boise, Idaho, in 1972, he said the states can meet the demand for industrial development and still preserve their wide open spaces and clean environment. A January 26, 1972, UPI report in the *Casper Star-Tribune* read, "The importance of mining to Wyoming's economy outweighs possible ecological hazards as far as the state's chief executive is concerned."

During Hathaway's two terms, several important pieces of environmental legislation were passed. Hathaway can take some credit for the 1967 Wyoming Air Quality Act, the 1969 Open Cut Reclamation Act, the 1973 Environmental Quality Act, and the 1973 Land Use Study Commission Act. The bills weren't as strong as some conservationists would have liked — Hathaway sought to keep them "flexible" — but they were a start. Bell remained critical saying, "The best thing you can say for the governor is that he didn't veto the bills. He tried to weaken every one."

State Rep. John Turner (R-Teton County) said the 1969 reclamation act "may well be the worst law in

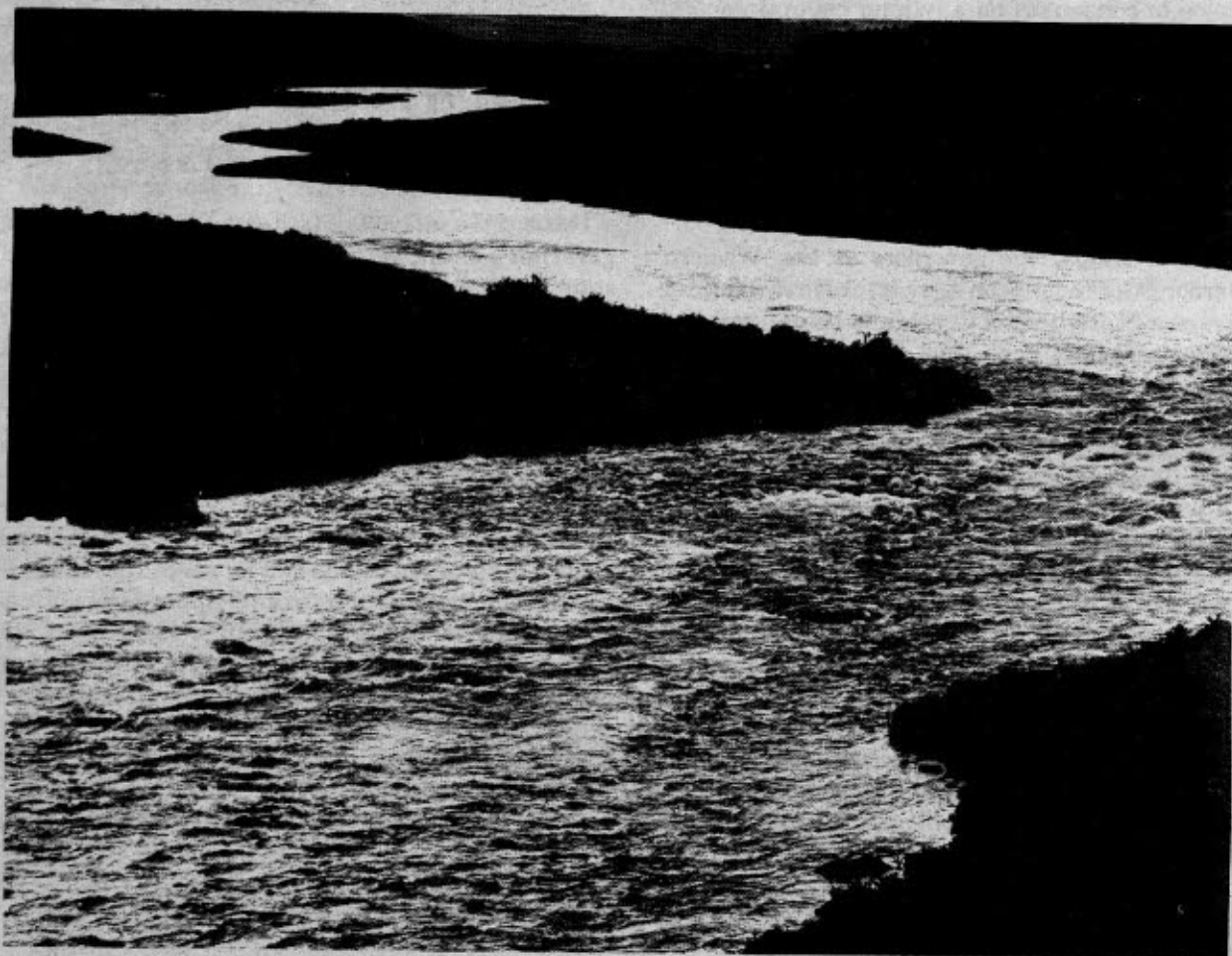


Eagles

In 1967, 1968, and 1969, Hathaway sought and obtained federal "golden eagle blanket depredation permits" enabling Wyoming sheep ranchers to shoot eagles. In 1970, then-Secretary of Interior Walter Hickel halted the granting of permits saying eagle attacks on livestock "are not widespread and . . . do not threaten either the local economies or the livestock industry generally." Hickel also maintained that the bald eagle, the national bird, was in danger of extermination because it was being killed along with the golden eagle. An immature bald eagle is hard to distinguish from a golden eagle.

When Hickel refused to grant further permits, Hathaway sought to bring White House pressure on Interior, according to documents uncovered by the *LOS ANGELES TIMES*. Hickel refused to yield to Hathaway's pressure. (*LOS ANGELES TIMES*, 4-4-75).

Golden eagle photo by Don Domenick and courtesy of the Colorado Division of Wildlife.



Water development

In 1971, Hathaway authored a bill, SF 124, that set up state procedures to dam the wild and scenic upper Green River and condemn parkland, public lands, and private lands in the process. The plan was to take water from the Green River (Colorado River Basin) into the Great Divide Basin, and then into the Platte River (Missouri Basin). The bill was killed. (*HIGH COUNTRY NEWS*, 2-5-71)

Tom Stroock, Republican state chairman and a former state senator, told the *HIGH COUNTRY NEWS* that when Hathaway first came into office he wanted Kendall dam on the upper Green River "so bad he

could taste it." By the end of his term, Stroock claims Hathaway privately came about to a point where "you couldn't have put Kendall dam in over his dead body." Hathaway never publicly opposed any of the dams on the Green. (*HIGH COUNTRY NEWS* interview, 4-8-75)

Hathaway advocated construction of the China Meadows Dam in southwestern Wyoming. When told, in May 1973, that other states objected to the project because it would contribute to the salinity of the Colorado River, he replied that the river's water originates in Wyoming where it is "clear and pure and not contaminated by erosion or sediment." He said any salinity contributed by the project to the Colorado would be minimal. (*BILLINGS GAZETTE*, 5-31-73)

Photo of the upper Green River at Big Bend by Randy Wagner.

the country." When Turner sought to strengthen the bill, he was approached by a state official "in an important position (who) had the gall to ask me not to introduce the added provisions because it would make industry mad," he told a convention of Catholic women in Cheyenne in 1971.

TOO MUCH, TOO FAST

In the absence of strong legislative controls, the area that really bore the brunt of Hathaway's "quality growth" sell-Wyoming program was in and around the city of Rock Springs in southwestern Wyoming. The town had been through periodic booms and busts since the coal mines first opened in 1868 to supply the Union Pacific Railroad. When Hathaway came to power, the area was depressed. The coal mines had closed in 1954 when trains switched to diesel power. "This town almost died in the 1950s," said Rock Springs councilman Dan Radakovich. "Hathaway saved this area."

The area was "saved" by a boom of unprecedented magnitude. In the late '60s and early '70s, industrial growth in the area skyrocketed. Idaho Power and Pacific Power and Light decided to build the Jim Bridger coal-fired power plant east of the city. Trona mines and soda ash refining plants opened up to the west. South of the city, Hathaway pushed for development of an oil shale industry. When private companies showed little interest in nominating federal tracts for lease, the governor nominated two. When no private firm showed up to bid on the federal tracts, Hathaway talked of offering adjacent state lands to make the leases more attractive.

The industrial growth in the area was accompanied by unexpected rapid population growth. In 1970 the city's population was about 12,000, but by 1974 it hit 26,000. A critical housing shortage led to

uncontrolled and inadequately serviced trailer and tent suburbs. The mental health caseload increased 1,000%, hospital admissions went up 333%, and traffic jams were an everyday occurrence. A 1975 report of the Governor's Planning Committee on Criminal Administration reported a 600% increase in crime between 1971 and 1973 in five Wyoming counties where industrial impact was taking place. The five counties were Campbell, Converse, Carbon, Lincoln, and Sweetwater (where Rock Springs is located).

"I think a lot of the blame for the impact has been put on Stan's shoulders, which is not fair," said Rock Springs Mayor Paul Wataha.

"I think Hathaway was caught in the middle. He helped us every way he could," said city clerk John Fornengo.

Speaking before the Green River Chamber of Commerce in March, 1974, Hathaway admitted it was "too much, too fast. . . . Once you prime the pump of free enterprise, it doesn't stop where you want."

Councilman Radakovich, who lived through both the '50s and '60s depression and the '70s boom isn't sure the growth improved his city. He told the Associated Press, "That's a hard question. The quality of life is not very high, although spendable income is way up. I think the quality of life will improve there. I hope it will."

END OF AN ERA

For Hathaway, seeing the effects of his "quality growth" program bud, bloom, and wilt in Rock Springs must have been an unpleasant ordeal. It may have marked the end of an era in Wyoming—a watershed in the flow of public opinion.

In 1974, Hathaway set up a special advisory council on the Powder River Basin to oversee orderly development of the state's coal resource. He



Teton jetport

Hathaway was one of the leading advocates of establishing a jetport within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park. When the Park Service prepared an environmental impact statement highly critical of the plan, Hathaway's statement at the public hearing lambasted the authors. "There are few words devoted to the safety of people flying in and out of Jackson Hole, and entire pages are devoted to the disruption of the sage grouse and the visual intrusion caused by aircraft 'spoiling' a once-in-a-lifetime-view of the Tetons," his statement said. "There are those individuals in society who would junk all modern methods of transportation, including cars and planes, and return to a society which relied on the horse and buggy for its transportation needs. This is unrealistic and ignores society's quest to always go forward, rather than backward." (Hearing record, 9-11-73)

Photo of the Tetons, courtesy of the National Park Service.



Clean air

In 1967 the Wyoming Air Quality Act was passed. It wasn't a strong act; it was a timid first step. The act set up a Wyoming Air Resources Council which was charged with adopting standards.

In 1970, when the Wyoming Air Resources Council was adopting air quality standards, Hathaway unsuccessfully sought to weaken the regulations. He asked for two escape clauses, proposed as sections 14 and 15, which would have allowed variances for new industries siting in Wyoming. The proposed section 14 would have allowed variances from adopted standards to new industries when such variances would be "necessary to the economic and social development of the state." Section 15 would have allowed variances

from adopted standards for areas of low population. Both sections were not adopted. (HIGH COUNTRY NEWS, 1-16-70)

In 1972 the federal Environmental Protection Agency took over the protection of clean air in Wyoming because the state standards did not meet the minimum federal standards set forth in the Clean Air Act of 1970. (BILLINGS GAZETTE, 9-27-72)

In 1973 the Wyoming Environmental Quality Act called on the newly-formed air quality division to set air pollution standards. In December 1974 the division proposed tough sulfur dioxide air pollution controls that were passed in early 1975 by the Hathaway-appointed Environmental Quality Council. These sulfur regulations are among the best in the nation. (HIGH COUNTRY NEWS, 2-28-75)

Pacific Power and Light's Dave Johnston plant near Glenrock, Wyo. Photo by Terry Moore.

wanted to make sure the Rock Springs experience wasn't repeated around the state, but in the absence of strong state laws there could be no guarantees — only advice.

Despite the governor's avowed concern, he continued to downplay the impact of energy development. In 1974 he said, "My own state of Wyoming has enough coal to last the world for 300 years if it were all mined. . . . We can mine 50 million tons of coal a year in Wyoming and disturb less land than was disturbed in building Interstate Highway 80 across Wyoming." On June 30, 1974, there were 1,156,773 acres of state lands leased for coal. By the time Hathaway left office, state coal leases totaled 1,862,000 acres — this represented every acre of state land with any potential for coal development.

Hathaway continued to push for full development of Wyoming's resources until the last day he was in the governor's chair. But the enchantment with the magical phrase "quality growth" had faded for many people in the state.

"Wyoming's governor is an anachronism in a world suddenly attuned to environmental matters — a dinosaur who doesn't know his time has come," wrote Tom Bell in 1971.

In 1974 Hathaway chose not to seek re-election to a third term. Dick Jones, the Republican candidate and Hathaway's heir apparent, lost the statehouse to Democrat Ed Herschler. Herschler preached, "We still want industry, but we want it on our terms." In the months after Herschler took office, the state passed a land use planning act, a utility siting act, strengthening amendments to the state's environmental quality act, and defeated an attempt to weaken the new tough sulfur dioxide air pollution regulations.

Herschler, interviewed at the Governors' conference in Billings, Mont., last week, told High Country News, "Frankly, I think Hathaway may have been unjustly criticized — he may have been a victim of the times. . . . If he had been opposed to growth

when running for office, it would have been like opposing God and motherhood. . . . I think he did a good job while he was there; I personally have a different philosophy than he does."

The temper of the country changed and cut Hathaway adrift — an apostle of growth in a world that has come to recognize fast-approaching limits to growth. The sell-Wyoming debate should have been closed with Hathaway's retirement from public office last year. But now, instead, the debate has moved to the U.S. Senate floor where it's no longer just Wyoming's environment at stake — it's the entire country's.

Land use

To his credit, Hathaway salvaged a near dead Land Use Study Commission bill in the 1973 session. Two years later, in 1975, the legislature passed a land use planning act that requires counties to start planning. Wyoming Gov. Ed Herschler praised Hathaway saying, "He picked a very fine commission to study land use planning so it was ready for me when I took over in January." (HIGH COUNTRY NEWS interview, 4-2-75)

Like many westerners, Hathaway distrusted federal land use control. Hathaway was back in Washington in the spring of 1973 testifying for extended deadlines and less federal control in the land use bill. Hathaway told the Senate Interior Committee that a timetable for imposition of the law should be set back five years and that sanctions against non-complying states should be dropped. He said the national law should set out only a "broad policy" with "maximum flexibility" to allow the states to respond to their individual problems.

Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.) has charged that Hathaway falsely represented the position of the National Governors' Conference at a key point during the 1974 debate of the federal land use planning bill. Udall said the conference actually urged "action on the very bill reported by the (Interior) committee," but Hathaway, on the eve of the House debate, "sent a carefully-worded telegram falsely implying that the Governors' Conference opposed such action." Udall said, "This well-placed monkey wrench helped Nixon's scheme to defeat the land use bill." (DENVER POST, 4-6-75)

(continued on page 6)

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Friday, April 11, 1975

Hathaway . . .

(continued from page 5)

Strip mining

Hathaway claims a good deal of credit for the Open Cut Reclamation Act of 1969 — a bill that he says demonstrates his administration's environmental concern. In 1970 he said Wyoming "currently is the only western mining state with an act that requires restoration of land disturbed by mining activity." (HIGH COUNTRY NEWS, 10-23-70)

State Rep. John Turner (R-Teton County) criticized the act in 1971 saying, "Our present reclamation act is a model law only if you compare it with no law at all. It may well be the worst law in the country."

Turner said that during the legislative session a state official in "an important position had the gall to ask me not to introduce the added reclamation provisions (to the reclamation act) because it would make industry mad." (CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE, 5-5-71)

Montana Lt. Gov. Bill Christiansen said Wyoming's reclamation laws may have been on the books before Montana's, "but they're not as strong." (MIS-SOULIAN, 4-2-75)

Speaking in Cheyenne in January 1972, Hathaway defended the strip mining saying, "Fortunately, the prime mineral areas of the state are not in recreation areas. With few exceptions they are in the arid areas of the state where it does not, in my opinion, create environmental hazards." (CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE, 1-26-72)

In June 1974 Hathaway appeared at a federal hearing in Cheyenne on the draft environmental impact statement on the development of coal resources in the eastern Powder River Basin. Hathaway disagreed with federal wildlife authorities who had written that the mining operations would be detrimental to the antelope in the area saying, "I visited the Amax Mine the other night, and the antelope didn't seem to be bothered at all by the activity there . . . it doesn't seem to me that there's any real threat to the antelope population." (Hearing record, 6-24-74)



Coyote photo courtesy of Grand Teton National Park.

Public lands

Hathaway has come out in favor of selling federal public lands to private commercial interests. In March 1972 when speaking at Western Wyoming College in Rock Springs, Hathaway said he sometimes thinks there are two governors in the state — himself and the Secretary of the Interior. Each decision the secretary makes concerning federal lands in Wyoming has a dramatic effect since 50% of the state's surface is federal land, he said. When some federal lands can be used by private enterprise for development of recreation or agriculture, Hathaway advocated considering selling the property. (CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE, 3-4-72)

Predator control

In 1972, Hathaway urged other Rocky Mountain governors to help get the federal government out of the predator control business within three years. At that time he favored giving total control powers to the individual states. Hathaway said if coyotes weren't controlled, sheepmen would be put out of business and game herds would be damaged.

Hathaway said he had a bumper sticker which read, "Eat lamb, 20,000 coyotes can't be wrong." (CASPER STAR-TRIBUNE, 10-19-72)

When President Richard Nixon banned the use of predator poisons on federal lands, Wyoming's assistant agriculture commissioner testified on behalf of Gov. Hathaway that the ban should be lifted. The 1972 ban was instituted because of severe abuses with poisons — many of which occurred in Wyoming. Interior hoped to use the moratorium period as a time to do research into other means of predator control.

In 1974 the state of Wyoming joined the Wyoming Woolgrowers Association in filing a lawsuit to overturn the ban. The suit is still pending. (LOS ANGELES TIMES, 4-4-75)

Coal leasing

In June 1969 Hathaway said he was concerned because no coal leases had been issued by the U.S. government on its lands in Wyoming for the past 13 months although there were companies who were seeking such leases. (WYOMING STATE TRIBUNE, 6-19-69)

State coal leasing skyrocketed under Hathaway. On Sept. 30, 1966, during Hathaway's first year in office there were 679,557 acres of state coal leases. On Jan. 1, 1975, when he left office, there were 1,862,000 acres leased. Bert King, state land commissioner, said that by January 1975 virtually all state lands with a potential for coal were under lease.

"While the Department of Interior had wisely imposed a moratorium on the leasing of federal coal, Governor Hathaway charged forth and leased every ounce of coal owned by the state of Wyoming," said Rep. Morris Udall (D-Ariz.). (DENVER POST, 4-6-75)

How much wilderness?

Flat Tops and Eagles Nest debated

by Rick Thompson

After waiting ten years, Colorado conservationists are hoping two spectacular scenic areas are close to being designated wilderness areas under terms of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

The debate over the Flat Tops and Eagles Nest areas in west central Colorado was once again brought into public view during hearings held jointly by the Senate Interior Committee's Subcommittee on Environment and Land Resources and the House Interior Committee's Public Lands Subcommittee on April 3 in Glenwood Springs, Colo.

As has been the case in previous public hearings held on attempts to insure preservation of the areas, the bulk of testimony favored including a maximum number of acres — a viewpoint that has not surprisingly been contested by some timber interests, the U.S. Forest Service, and a quasi-public group of decision makers called the Denver Water Board.

"Senator Haskell's bill tries hard to accommodate the Denver Water Board," a spokesman for the Wilderness Society's Western Regional Office in Denver said, referring to a bill introduced by Sen. Floyd Haskell (D-Colo.), "but they want to get everything they can get their hands on." According to Wilderness Society figures, Haskell's bill would give the water board 93% of the water it wants from the area. Another bill being considered by the House committee sponsored by Rep. Jim Johnson (R-Colo.) calls for 4,000 more acres at Eagles Nest than Haskell's bill. Both the Haskell and Johnson bills call for about 237,500 acres to be included in the Flat Tops wilderness area while for Eagles Nest Haskell's calls for about 128,000 acres and Johnson's for about 132,000 acres.

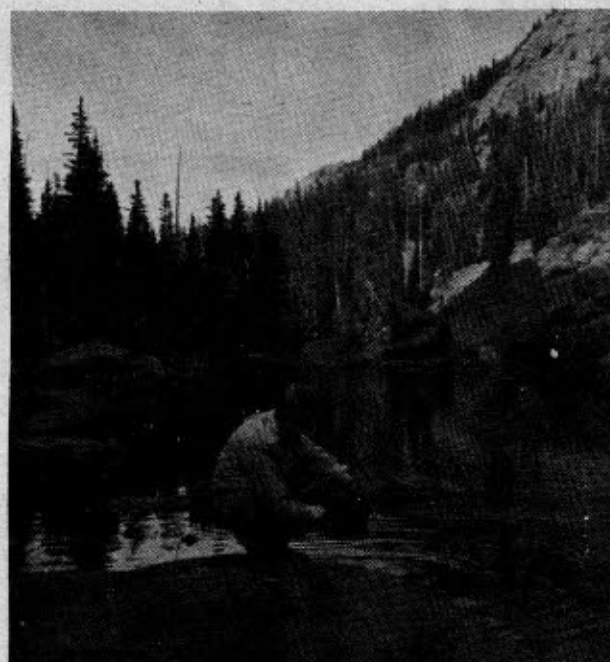
The points of disagreement at the hearing had less to do with the validity of proclaiming the two

areas wilderness than with the actual number of acres to be included in any congressional approval. The Denver Water Board told the joint hearing that it favors an original Forest Service proposal which would include only 87,000 acres in Eagles Nest, all at the highest elevations of the Gore Range, which is about 60 miles west of Denver. "It's your typical wilderness-on-the-rocks Forest Service proposal," a spokesman for the Wilderness Society said.

The DWB claimed that Haskell's bill is not acceptable because it would necessitate installing costly pumps to move the water. The board cited additional "on-going costs upon the water users of the metropolitan area" and "unnecessary commitments of energy" to run the pumps as reasons for favoring the minimum acreage. The DWB argument cites a master plan which foresees a doubling of the Denver population by 2010 and use of water from 26 of 30 major streams that flow out of the Eagles Nest area — amounting to 200,000 acre-feet of water. Adjudication is pending in Colorado courts over the fate of the proposed Eagle-Piney and East Gore water collection systems, scheduled by the DWB to glean water from the Blue and Eagle-Piney basins.

A spokesman for one lumber firm told the hearing panel Eagles Nest should not be included in the federal wilderness system at all because of a potential one million board-feet of timber. He said a sizable acreage of land in Flat Tops should be excluded because of three million potential board-feet of timber.

"The value of the elk is more than the timber — it's ten times more valuable to keep it in wilderness than to cut," the Wilderness Society said. Both the Wilderness Society and the Colorado Open Space Council Wilderness Workshop, which have researched both areas, said there is "a very small amount of timber, of marginal quality" that sits on steep, highly erodible slopes.



Mirror Lake in the Gore Range

Environmentalists blame repeated efforts by Rep. John Melcher (D-Mont.) to delay the proposals for the death of the Flat Tops and Eagles Nest area bills last year. They are more optimistic this year, however, since Johnson now sits on the House Interior Committee. However, the fate of the two bills appeared unpredictable last week after it was learned that Melcher had decided that more hearings should be held — this time in Washington. "It'll give them a chance to hear the Forest Service and timber interests without having us around," one environmentalist said with resignation.

Rick Thompson is a free lance writer based in Denver. He has degrees in psychology and journalism and is a former state reporter for the Wyoming Eagle in Cheyenne.

Conference participants' views vary

Guy named as regional energy director

by Marjane Ambler

Expectations for William L. Guy, director of the Western Governors' Energy Policy Office, range from complete confidence to the belief that his selection might foretell the failure of the office itself.

In interviews in Billings at the Western Governors' Conference on Agriculture where the announcement was made, one North Dakotan said that choosing former North Dakota Governor Guy for the director was "the greatest move forward on a sane policy toward energy." Rep. Charles Mertens, who served part of his term under the Guy administration, added, "Environmentalists won't get their way 100% of the time." He said Guy has an unusual ability to lead and is "20 years ahead of his time."

Fargo Forum reporter Philip Matthews agreed with both assessments: "He's a far-seeing, almost prophetic person . . . not the type to go crazy one way or the other."

Another North Dakotan, Mike Jacobs, also believes that Guy is an excellent administrator — "I don't think anyone would dispute that." However, Jacobs, who has served in the state agriculture department and who now publishes an independent newspaper, *The Onlooker*, questions Guy's appointment because of his record in state government.

Jacobs says Guy's administration was responsible for establishing many state agencies which are involved in energy promotion. "The whole thrust of his first election campaign and of his administration was to diversify North Dakota's economy," Jacobs says. Two examples, he says, are one, helping to start the Basin Rural Electric Cooperative and other rural electric companies and two, encouraging the sugar beet industry, which is the second biggest user of energy in the state. Both, Jacobs points out, require more coal to be mined.

Some of the agriculturists represented at the governors' conference appreciated Guy's actions. Ardell Liudahl, state dairy commissioner, says, "For agriculture, he's a good man. . . . He's been helpful with dairy legislation, with developing research, and with trying to maintain a family-type organization."

Donald Giffey of the North Dakota Farmers Union Grain Terminal Association says he believes Guy will be able to coordinate energy development and agricultural needs. "He can see the agricultural side, but also sees the need for energy which is necessary for agriculture," he says.

Guy's reputation reaches beyond his state's boundaries. The national president of the National Farmers Organization, Orin Lee Staley, told the HCN he was pleased with Guy's choice. During the 1972 Presidential campaign, Sen. George McGovern appointed him as National Chairman of Rural America.

His policies have brought him into conflict with his state's environmentalists, however, who are largely credited with making him lose the 1974 election campaign to Milton Young for a Senate seat. Guy lost by less than 200 votes when a third man, the environmental candidate, received 7,200 votes.

Jacobs says Guy has always been very open to the press and to people coming in to talk to him. "The whole thing that troubles me is whether his record is indicative of what he'll do in the future or are his pronouncements of a new environmental consciousness true?"

Guy's own environmental consciousness may or may not have an influence on his performance as director of the energy policy office. The governors have emphasized that the director will have a low

profile and will not be a policy-maker. The governors will set policy. Asked about the question, Guy said, "What I have advocated in the past and what the governors decide are two different things."

Even if Guy actually serves as an administrator and not a spokesman, Laney Hicks sees his selection as a bad indication of what's to come from the regional organization. Hicks is the Northern Plains

representative of the Sierra Club. "The thing that makes me mad is that he was chosen because he's a friend of a lot of the governors rather than because of his abilities. Those candidates who are qualified in terms of experience and knowledge apparently scared the governors because they didn't think they could control them."

(Continued on page 10)

CEQ's Russell Peterson says emphasis on science essential for selling ecology

by Jack E. McLellan

"When do we cease living, and begin survival?" asked Russell W. Peterson, chairman of the President's Council on Environmental Quality, at the University of Utah on April 1, 1975. Peterson cut through the political smog and environmental haze with powerful words on environmentalists, ecology, and the economy.

"Conservation is a strategy, for the long-term; we must accept it as our new mode of life. Accepting it will require a new perception of 'environmental awareness' on the part of the American people, one that goes beyond emotion, to dispassionate science. The nation and its leaders must be convinced that ecology deserves at least as loud a voice at our social bargaining table as economics."

Peterson warned that "bumper sticker ecology" — the emotional and esthetic appeals for environmental awareness — poses a subtle threat. "My uneasiness," he said, "stems from a fear that these efforts, in emphasizing the esthetic and humane aspects of ecology, tend to minimize its underpinnings in unsentimental science. The public is exposed to so much emotion and so little compensatory science that I'm afraid ecology is in danger of becoming synonymous with a soft-headed desire to repeal technology and reinvent the Garden of Eden."

"The problem is that when ecological concerns come into conflict with other social needs or appetites, policy-makers in industry and government tend to regard ecology as a desirable but dispensable extra. In competition with economic concerns, an improved environment is viewed as sort of dessert on a social menu. In other words, environmental protection is nice if we can afford it, but let's make sure we can buy the meat and potatoes first."

Peterson emphasized that to the contrary, our biosphere is the meat and potatoes of human life — that it is the other things, the supposedly "fundamental and practical" concerns of society, which are the "extras" made possible by man's primeval success at securing the most favorable niche in the chain of life. "That niche was awarded to man largely by the form of good luck known as evolution — but evolution offers no guarantees to any creature, and man will need more than luck to preserve his place in the world," he said.

SCIENCE VERSUS SENTIMENT

The CEQ Chairman stated that it is law and science, not sentiment, which dictate concern when traces of DDT are found in body tissues of Antarctic penguins. "How did it get there — from shrimp, their natural food, that may have absorbed the DDT and passed it on? Where did the shrimp get it — the coast of Chile, or California? Is there a much more complex food chain that involves many more creatures than shrimp?"

"The penguin is a cute little thing," declared Peterson, "an amusing creature as it waddles around so solemnly. It would be a shame to have it extinguished by DDT. But ecological science — as

distinct from ecological romance — says to man, 'Don't worry about how cute penguins are; worry about the fact that you eat shrimp, too!'"

He stressed that man needs to view the world in a holistic, integrated way. "Bumper stickers ask if we have thanked a green plant today. Scientists know why humans should thank a green plant," said Peterson, "but I wonder how many other people do — whether they appreciate the role of green plants in replenishing oxygen, absorbing carbon dioxide, and forming the base of the food web; or whether they simply think it's nice to have green plants around for visual variety."

"The distinction," he stated forcefully, "is critical as a means of heightening the public's perception of the gravity of ecological concerns."

APPROACH TO ENERGY CRISIS

Peterson expressed concern over the general impression that the "energy crisis" is short lived, and in 10 or 15 years the nation can relax and resume its comfortable rate of growth and standard of living.

"I'm not at all convinced we will ever be able to do this — on the contrary, I think our past patterns of exploitation of the earth's resources, coupled with the deeper political significance of the Arabs' quadrupling the oil prices, confront us with the necessity for altering our conceptions of growth and of living in some profound ways," said Peterson.

Peterson stressed that even though more emphasis needs to be placed on the scientific aspect of ecology, non-scientists must continue to protest the environmental destruction that will rob succeeding generations of variety and beauty in nature.



Russell W. Peterson

Photo by Jack McLellan

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April 11, 1975



TYPHA — a favorite of the Indians, cattails are a good potherb, a source of flour, and produce a tasty stalk.

Cattail — *Typha* sp.

Bordering ponds, marshes, drainage ditches, and clustered in patches along some of the foothill streams, is an extremely useful plant: the common cattail. Two species exist in Colorado: *Typha latifolia* and *Typha angustifolia*. Both are equally at home in the pantry and need not be differentiated.

A favorite food of the Indians, cattails are a nutrition source almost year round. Young cattail shoots can be found most often in the early spring, but they also appear all summer and into fall. Indians utilized the shoots by cutting them from the rootstock, stripping off the leaves, and leaving only the yellowish center mass.

The raw shoots are quite edible eaten plain, but the gourmet may find them more palatable as an addition to a tossed salad. They can also be used as a potherb, and when boiled for about half an hour, buttered, and seasoned, they are truly delicious. One wild-pantry secret is to boil the shoots with the wild mint that can often be found in the same vicinity as the cattails. Simply put the mint leaves in the water with the cattail shoots, leave them in throughout the entire boiling process, and then discard.

Later in the summer, the cattail will begin to produce flower spikes at the apex of the plant. These spikes, especially the thinner, upper portions (which are the male pollen-producing parts) can be used as an additive to flour in a number of recipes. The best time to harvest the flower spikes is just before they begin producing pollen. To tell if pollen production has started, simply shake the spike; if pollen powders off, the flowers have matured. If not, the immature flowers can be stripped from the plant by hand, to be mixed with wheat flour in an equal ratio and used in making pancakes, cookies, muffins, biscuits, or any other recipe calling for flour.

If you are too late to harvest the immature flowers, gather the yellow pollen instead. It, too, may be mixed with wheat flour and substituted in many recipes. Pancakes made with cattail pollen are a special treat. To collect the pollen, shake the flowers and catch the pollen in a container. You don't need to cut the flower from the plant as the stalks are rather

flexible. You can gather a good quantity of pollen in a short while at the right time of year this way.

The rootstocks of mature cattail plants are an excellent source of starch. As the season progresses, the rootstocks become starchier; sometimes nearly half the rootstock, by weight, may be starch, which can also be made into flour.

Mature cattail seeds are also edible. To prepare them, burn off the bristles of the flower stalks, leaving the seeds on the stalk slightly roasted. The seeds can then be scraped off and eaten. This is a method passed down from the Indians, and it still provides a tasty treat.



Wild lettuce — *Lactuca scariola*

Wild lettuce is one of those prickly weeds you dig from your yard every summer or see growing from cracks in the asphalt near old buildings. The spiny-margined leaves, often with spines down the midrib and veins of the leaf, are characteristic of wild lettuce. *Lactuca* is very common on the plains, in towns, and along roads in the foothills. The juice is typically milky.

Don't be afraid of the spines. They look much more sharp and dangerous than they actually are. Wade without hesitation into your wild lettuce patch and start picking leaves off the older plants and severing the young ones at ground level. Pick them before they flower, or they will be tough!

To prepare, boil the leaves, prickles and all, until they turn soft. Cooked wild lettuce is delicious served with butter and your favorite vegetable spices. Whenever Euell Gibbons has had a particularly frustrating day, he gathers a big helping of wild lettuce, cooks it up, and enjoys a mildly euphoric after-dinner sensation.

LACTUCA — a common weed, wild lettuce provides salad greens and can be boiled like spinach.



Guide to the wild

Yucca or soapweed — Yu

Yucca is a very distinctive plant of the dry areas from the foothills to the plains, where the soil is poor. The leaves originate at the base of the plant and are long, thin, pointed, and bayonet-like.

Fruit from the yucca may be eaten roasted, boiled, or raw. It must also be seeded and skinned, which is most easily accomplished after boiling. The pulp can be used as pie filling, shaped into cakes, dried, or boiled into paste and later used as a soup thickener. We found bite-sized pieces of the fruit to be an excellent addition to spaghetti. The fruit pulp does have a cathartic effect on some individuals, so it's best to avoid eating it in large quantities.

Other parts of the plant are also edible. The immature seed pods were once very popular with the Indians. Boiled for fifteen to twenty-five minutes, sliced, buttered, and seasoned, they make a tasty addition to any meal. The flowers may be eaten,

either raw or better the taste in Mexican folk stalks are good and boiled or be easily pe eaten, raw.

However, in eating any soapweed, su in sufficient under any c sifying agen the Indians cutting them ing and mas lather forme market now its ingredien

YUCCA — fruits are good eating and roots c



the wild edibles

By David Slade and Bob Mount

Soapweed — *Yucca glauca*

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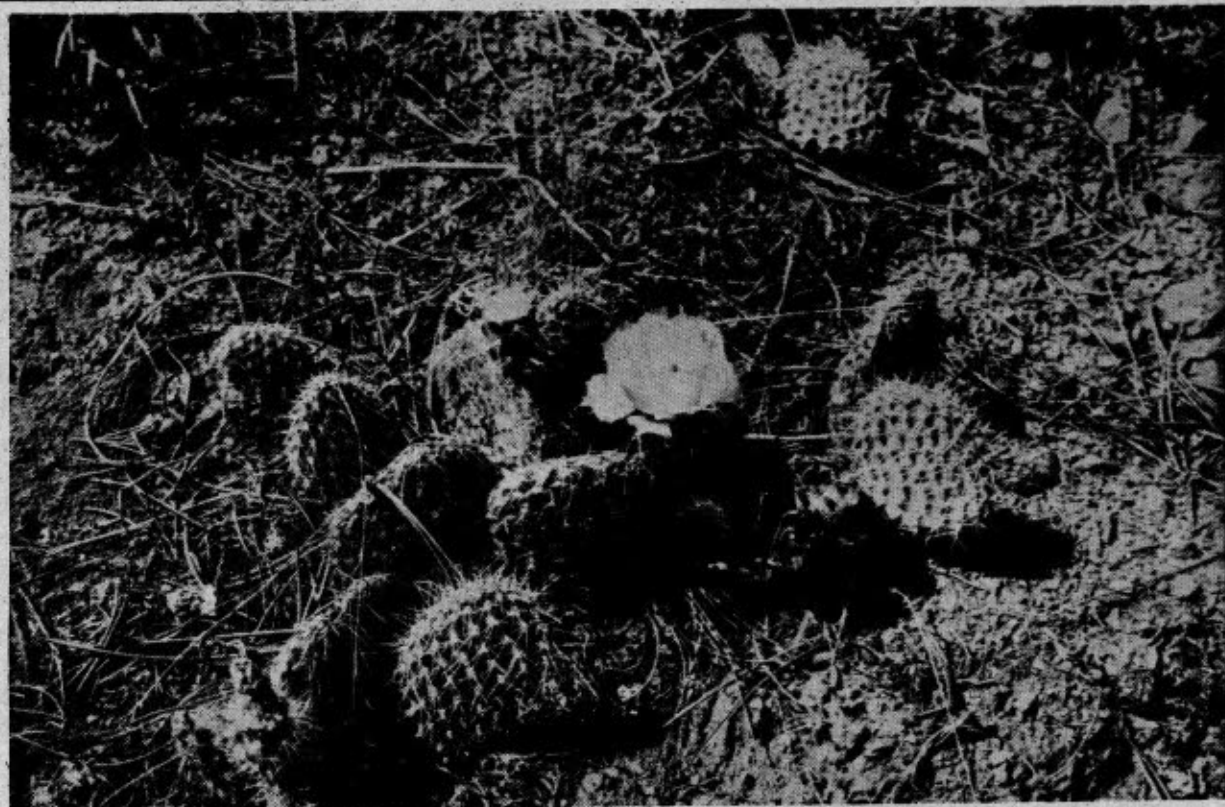
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either raw or boiled, and the older the flower, the better the taste. Yucca flowers are commonly found in Mexican food markets. And the tall, mature flower stalks are good eating. They may be cut into sections and boiled or roasted, after which the tough rind may be easily peeled away. Even the stalk-pulp may be eaten, raw.

However, always use a certain amount of caution in eating any part of the plant. As its common name, soapweed, suggests, yucca is a purgative when eaten in sufficient quantity. The roots should not be eaten under any circumstances as they contain an emulsifying agent, saponin, which forms a lather. In fact, the Indians used yucca roots for washing their hair, cutting them into convenient lengths and then crushing and mashing them vigorously in water until a lather formed. There is a commercial shampoo on the market now that supposedly contains yucca root in its ingredients.

Eating and roots contain shampoo.



OPUNTIA — beneath the yellow flowers, the prickly pear grows a large edible fruit.

Prickly pear cactus — *Opuntia* sp.

The prickly pear is the most common cactus on dry slopes from the plains and mesas up into the foothills. The plants grow in clusters, each cactus sheltering another, and they produce large, yellow flowers.

You have to be careful when handling this mountain delicacy, as the spines on the flattened, fleshy lobes can be obnoxiously irritating if broken off beneath your skin. But the prickly pear can be disarmed by peeling with a knife, and the peeled fruits and new joints may be eaten raw, fried, or stewed. Usually only the pulp is used and the rind, from which the spines grow, is discarded. The seeds are also removed and may be used in soups or ground into

flour. Sliced prickly pear mixed with scrambled eggs makes a good breakfast dish.

The pulp can be used in any way other fleshy fruits are used and may be substituted in recipes for pies, jams, jellies, preserves, and so forth. The sun dried pulp has been known to keep for years and may be used as any other dried fruit would be.

No *Opuntia* is poisonous, and all are edible or at least mucilaginous to provide sufficient quantities of bitter juice for human survival when the flesh is chewed or crushed.

Indians of the Southwest were known to have split the fleshy pads, soaked them in water, and used them to bind wounds and bruises.



SAGE — an excellent spice for meats and a pungent mountain tea.

Pasture sage — *Artemisia frigidula*

You will find this plant nearly everywhere in the foothills, and if you don't, it is close by. It loves dry, sunny slopes and needs very little water to survive.

Artemisia is a low-growing herb averaging around eight inches in height. It is light bluish-green in color, with a woody root system from which grow slender stems, four to eight inches long, bearing many closely packed, narrow leaves about three-eighths of an inch long. Crushing the leaves between your fingers produces a spicy aroma.

Sage is commonly used as a seasoning for fish, poultry, and stews. It also steeps into a delicious tea which does not get bitter too quickly, although five to eight minutes is long enough. Remember, a little sage goes a long way. Sage tea, served with honey or sugar, is a very good around-the-fire beverage.



Both David Slade and Bob Mount are graduates of the University of Colorado with B.A.'s in environmental biology. This is a collection of some of their favorite wild edibles.

(This article will be continued in our next issue.)

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10-High Country News
Friday, April 11, 1975

Reckoning from Washington

by Lee Catterall

Former Gov. Stan Hathaway may face intensive grilling by members of a Senate committee before being allowed to run the Interior Department.

The third degree would result not only from Hathaway's lack of popularity among environmentalists but also from the view of some that the fact President Ford was not elected allows him less freedom than ordinary presidents to choose people as he pleases to run the government. The Senate must vote to confirm Hathaway's nomination.

Sen. Henry Jackson, chairman of the Senate Interior Committee, holds that view, and can be expected to examine Hathaway closely if environmental groups mount a drive against confirmation. Environmentalists began to scream even before Hathaway's nomination by the President became official.

It won't be the first time Jackson has conducted such hearings. When President Nixon appointed former Alaska Gov. Walter J. Hickel to the Interior job in 1969, environmental groups set out to trace every one of Hickel's previous footsteps. They found craters.

Even without the drive by environmentalists against him, Hickel might have invited such an examination. At a news conference after being nominated, he badmouthed "conservation for conservation's sake" and noted that "a tree looking at a tree doesn't do anything."

A veteran committee staffer recalled that Hickel's hearings before Jackson's group lasted "eight hours a day, day after day," with television lights glaring.

Brock Evans, the Sierra Club's Washington lobbyist, said the hearings proved to be "educational." He added that the 22 votes, including pairs, in the Senate against Hickel's confirmation made the effort worthwhile. He said the votes might have encouraged Hickel to regard cleanliness as a virtue.

As it turned out, Hickel became a good secretary in the view of many people, although Evans rates him "only 40% good." (An overrating by others might be explained by the liberal plaudits Hickel earned by leaving the Nixon Administration over his disagreement with Nixon's policy in Cambodia.)

Jackson, it might be added, is not averse to television lights. A circus-like grilling of Hathaway would attract such attention and at the same time help restore his standing with environmentalists, without forcing him to take a radical stand on any issue. That's Jackson's style of Presidential campaign politics, as he has practiced it with oil executives.

The committee staffer said Jackson believes the committee "really can't be too cavalier" about rejecting a nominee because of members' disagreement with him on issues, or "whether the President's taste or value judgements were correct."

On the other hand, he added, "this is the first time we haven't had an elected President, and it's a little different."

Environmentalists long have been unhappy with Rogers Morton as Secretary of Interior.

"He has, in effect, been functioning as a co-Secretary of Commerce, rather than as guardian for the nation's resources," Lewis Regenstein of the Fund for Animals wrote in the *Washington Post* last September. Regenstein called for Morton's removal from the job in favor of somebody "more amenable to environmental concerns."

Hathaway was not whom he had in mind, and Jackson's committee may use confirmation hearings to advertise that fact.

Guy energy director . . .

(continued from page 7)

"What this means to me is that the governors are not willing to spend enough time to do their own homework. We're all going to wait and see what Guy does, but the odds are that the whole thing will self-destruct because neither the states nor the federal government will take it seriously enough. . . . If they had picked a man with more technical qualifications, then they would have been forced to take the regional energy office seriously," Hicks says.

Hicks and the Friends of the Earth representative for the region, Ed Dobson, both repeated Jacobs' fears about Guy's association with rural electric cooperatives. Dobson explains, "There are two political realities in North Dakota — there is the obvious Republican party and the not so obvious rural electric cooperatives which control the Democratic party. More and more the RECs are acting like growth-oriented investor-owned utilities to the point that there is great difficulty in distinguishing between the goals of Basin Electric Cooperative and Pacific Power and Light. Guy represents the new REC philosophy, and his appointment to this energy position was purely political."

Asked when he would open his Denver office, Guy said it would be opened as soon as possible although he did not want to hurry so much that he could not get the best possible staff. Guy was expected to meet with Colorado Gov. Dick Lamm soon after the conference. Lamm was the only governor to publicly oppose Guy. Lamm was said to have opposed Guy because he wanted a technician instead of a politician and because of reports from environmental groups that Guy's environmental record was "spotty."

States participating in the regional energy organization include Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. All of the states but Nevada were represented at the closed meeting where the decision on the director was made. Three other candidates, including Assistant Interior Secretary Jack Horton, Northern Great Plains Re-

source Program Manager John VanDerwalker, and Don Cunningham of the Denver Research Institute were also interviewed at the meeting. Guy was approved by all of the governors in the final vote, but two other names were supported by some of the governors in earlier discussions.

Gov. Jerry Apodaca of New Mexico, chairman of the group, said the office will be in Denver and the first year's budget will be about \$341,000. He would not discuss the salary of the director who will be in charge of a staff of about 15.



William L. Guy

Guy experienced in regional organization

The biggest challenge for the new director of the Western Governors' Regional Policy Office will be opening up lines of communication among the states and between the states and the federal government, according to William L. Guy, who was named to the position April 1. Guy told the *High Country News* that by sorting out the wealth of research and data about the region's resources, the staff of the new office will make it easier for states to find consensus on policy matters that they believe are essential to formation of regional and eventually of national policy.

Asked why he was interested in holding the position of director, Guy, 55, said, "The most critical problem facing the nation is to carefully plan for the energy needs that undergird our economy and society in this period of growing population. . . . We can't afford to be subservient to foreign energy sources."

When Guy was asked whether he thought the position would benefit him politically, he said it would not. "I don't visualize the function of the director as being a spokesman but as an administrator."

Explaining his interest in energy resources, Guy, who is a former governor of North Dakota, said, "Since my own state is among those energy producing states that may be called upon to sacrifice in supplying its share of the nation's energy, I've been interested in seeing that energy development is done only with full compensation to impacted communities and to private land owners with strict protection of air and water and restoration of topsoil."

The opening of the energy policy office means the

"end to development at any cost," he said after his appointment.

Guy, a Democrat, served as governor of the predominantly Republican state for 12 years, the longest tenure of any governor there. Soon after taking office, he recognized the value to regional approach to resources and to tourist promotion. He was instrumental in forming the 10 state Missouri Basin Commission, the 3 state Souris Red River Region, the Old West Trail tourist organization, and the Old West Regional Commission.

Guy organized the Midwest Governors' Conference in 1962 and later the governors of the nation recognized his leadership by electing him chairman of the National Governors' Conference in 1966-67. In 1968-69, he served as chairman of the National Governors Council Committee on Conservation and Environmental Management.

A former professor at North Dakota State University, Guy holds a masters degree in agricultural economics. He has a farm near Casselton, N.D.

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Catalogue of Publications 25c

High Country News-11
Friday, April 11, 1975



Cartoon reprinted from the OURAY PLAINDEALER

"YOU WANT SOME WATER, SWEETIE? COME ALONG WITH US."

Lamm questions Dallas dam

"I don't see any difference in letting that water flow to California and having the California power generation at our water expense happen in Colorado," Colorado Gov. Dick Lamm was quoted as saying in a recent AP release. He was discussing the Dallas Creek Project, originally an agricultural water storage proposal to be built near Ouray in southwestern Colorado. Lamm is concerned because the amount of project water earmarked for agriculture has dropped from 80% to 13%. Kemmerer Coal Co. has an option on 24,000 acre-feet of the water and has tentative plans to establish a coal mine and coal gasification or electrical generating plant nearby.

"We must fully protect our interstate compact rights, but we must also use our water for purposes that are in the best interest of the state and the communities where the projects are located," Lamm said in a letter to the Colorado Water Conservancy Board. "We should not be in the business of converting our mineral fuel resources to clean energy for other regions of this country. Our water is too scarce and our environment too fragile to undertake this kind of activity." Lamm asked the group to study the uses to which the Dallas water would be put and to relay his concerns to Washington.

The story typifies energy-agricultural conflict in the West. The dam was originally planned for agricultural, domestic, and municipal water. The Tri-County Water Conservancy District formed 20 years ago to dole out the benefits. But in 1972 investigative reporting by the OURAY COUNTY PLAINDEALER revealed that the water district had been in serious financial trouble and had let industry bail it out. The PLAINDEALER reported that Kemmerer Coal Co. had secretly optioned most of the project's water and planned a package which included a coal mine and a coal plant.

The Ford administration has asked for a construction start on the Dallas Project and three other proposed dams in the Upper Colorado River Basin: Fruitland Mesa in west-central Colorado, Savery-Pot Hook in northwestern Colorado and southwestern Wyoming, and the Jensen Unit of the Central Utah Project.



Emphasis ENERGY

in the Northern Rockies and Great Plains



NORTHERN PLAINS UNRECLAIMABLE? Sierra Club Research Director Robert Curry claims that successful long term reclamation of strip mined land in the semi-arid plains of Montana and Wyoming may be impossible. He cites a National Academy of Science study which indicates that reclamation potential of lands receiving less than 10 inches of precipitation per year is very poor. Curry says that while precipitation on the Northern Plains averages about 13 inches a year, approximately 30% of this moisture is in the form of snow which evaporates rapidly. The ability of revegetated areas to endure harsh climatic conditions over a long period of time remains to be proven, Curry says.

TENO RAPS PIPELINE. Testifying before the House Interior Committee, Rep. Teno Roncalio (D-Wyo.) strongly opposed coal slurry pipeline legislation. Roncalio says he is concerned about the large quantities of water which coal-producing regions are being asked to supply to transport their coal through pipelines. A Wyoming contractor, Floyd W. Dixon, has suggested using Montana water from the Fort Peck Reservoir to slurry coal to Arkansas. "We need a Kissinger-like statesman who can develop the motivation of mutual benefits between these different states to get these things done," a pipeline company official said in response to the proposal. Underground water from Wyoming has already been allotted for the project.

The Hot Line

energy news from across the country

METHANE IN MINES. The U.S. has enough methane gas in minable coal beds to take care of all the country's present level of natural gas consumption for 12 years, says Pennsylvania State University professor Robert Stefanko. The U.S. Bureau of Mines has developed a promising technique to collect the gas from the beds before coal mining takes place. With "a real strong effort, within two years, we could be supplying five per cent of our gas requirements" in this way, says bureau geologist Maurice Deul.

GASOLINE SAVER. A device called a microprocessor could save up to 40% on gasoline consumption, says an RCA Corp. official. The device is a tiny computer which would control automobile carburetors. The microprocessor is currently being tested by major automakers, according to RCA.

NUCLEAR TILT TO BE RIGHTED. The administrator for the new Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) believes the top posts in his agency show "too heavy a nuclear tilt," *Business Week* reported recently. Seven of the nine assistant administrator posts have been filled with officials from the old Atomic Energy Commission. The top administrator, Robert C. Seamans, says he plans to ease out half of the top officials in ERDA.

VERMONT CONTROLS ATOM. Vermont's legislature recently passed one of the nation's toughest atomic power control laws. The act requires legislative approval for future nuclear plant construction. Eleven other states have or will introduce stiff nuclear regulation or moratorium bills. The others are Nebraska, California, Oregon, Iowa, Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Oklahoma, and New York.

U.S. SHRINKS ENERGY DEMAND. For the first time since 1952, U.S. energy use has declined. Preliminary Bureau of Mines figures show a 2.2% decline in 1974 of over-all energy use over the previous year. Outgoing Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton attributed the bulk of the decline to: the Arab oil embargo, higher prices, economic slowdown, conservation efforts, and relatively mild winter weather. Energy use had risen at an annual rate of 4.1% since 1960.

HYDROGEN DRIVES MAIL TRUCK. Tests on a hydrogen gas-powered mail truck show that the fuel has "the potential of averting future energy shortages," the U.S. Postal Service says. The vehicle uses an American Motors six cylinder, water-cooled engine with a modified carburetor and other special equipment. Hydrogen fuel offers two tremendous advantages over petroleum fuel: it is as plentiful as water and produces far less pollution. For now, however, it is expensive — \$1.80 per gallon or \$90 to fill the truck's 50-gallon tank.

MAJORS LOSE TAX BREAK. A bill signed by President Gerald Ford will take a large tax break away from major oil companies in the country. The break, the oil depletion allowance, will still be available to about 10,000 of the smaller, independent oil producers, however. A depletion allowance allows a company to deduct a percentage of its gross income from taxable income before any other deductions are taken. The oil and gas depletion allowance has been 22%.

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North Dakota

New severance tax may face veto by governor

by Mike Jacobs

North Dakota's Legislature spent much of its last week arguing levels of taxation for the state's developing lignite coal industry.

In the last days of the session, which ended in a spring blizzard March 26, legislators voted to impose a severance tax of 50 cents per ton of coal. The tax will be tied to the wholesale price index, a national barometer of inflation. The tax will rise one cent for each three-point rise in the wpi, which went up 25 points during 1974.

The state currently has no severance tax on coal. That may continue to be the case because Gov. Arthur A. Link, who argued vocally for a severance tax of at least 30% of the coal's selling price, may veto the legislature's action. A citizen's campaign to initiate a percentage of value tax is also being discussed.

As passed by the legislature, the severance tax bill establishes a coal development impact commission in the office of the governor. That commission would allocate tax monies to counties and other taxing districts impacted by coal development, but actions of the commission will be subject to veto by a seven member legislative review committee.

A portion of revenues from the severance tax will be placed in a trust fund for the future.

Provisions of the tax bill are temporary — the act expires on June 30, 1977, so coal taxation will likely be a major item of controversy during the 1977 legislative session, as well.

Legislators also passed a coal conversion privilege tax of 10 cents per thousand cubic feet of synthetic natural gas produced for sale, or 2.5% of the gross receipts of the plant, whichever is greater.

Electric generating plants will be taxed at 25 hundredths of a mill for each kilowatt hour of electricity produced for sale. Other conversion plants, fertilizer or plastics manufacturers for instance, will pay 2.5% of gross receipts in taxes.

In other action, the North Dakota Legislature:

—killed a plan to appropriate \$275,000 in state funds to design a diversion system to take water from Lake Sakakawea on the Missouri River behind Garrison Dam across the headwaters of five western North Dakota tributaries of the Missouri. This action and the death of a bill enabling the creation of a West River Diversion Conservancy District were regarded as major victories by the state's small but persistent environmental lobby.

—passed a bill centralizing authority for siting coal conversion plants and transmission systems in the state's Public Service Commission. The PSC, which also regulates reclamation of strip mined lands, will conduct an inventory of available plant and corridor sites.

After the inventory is completed, the industry must select one of the sites proposed in the inventory. Two weaknesses of the bill are the time allowed for the study and the choice of the PSC as the regulatory authority. The PSC is an elected body, and some environmentalists said there could be a conflict since the PSC is also responsible for regulating utility rates. After the first year the law is in effect, the PSC will be allowed only six months to designate a site for energy conversion facilities and three months for corridors.

The application fee is \$500 for each million dollars invested but not in excess of \$150,000.

—rejected amendments which would have required stratification of the top two layers of overburden above coal veins, but passed a bill which generally strengthens the state's existing mine reclamation law.

—defeated a bill which would have allowed landowners' veto power over strip mining on lands where surface and mineral ownership is divided. Instead, legislators passed a bill allowing surface

owners to seek damages in court. This bill is similar to the state's eminent domain law. Compensation, not the right to mine, would be the only question for the court to decide.

—passed a bill allowing property tax exemptions to citizens installing solar energy systems in homes, but defeated measures to use coal industry taxes for research into alternative energy sources and to provide low interest loans through the state's publicly owned bank for solar and wind energy systems.

—defeated three attempts to put limits on coal mining in the state. Bills were beaten which would have banned further stripping, limited stripping to areas adjacent to existing mines, and limited stripping to a 10% increase yearly.

—passed resolutions supporting the continued construction of the controversial Garrison Diversion Project, which would irrigate 250,000 acres in central and eastern North Dakota, and calling on

Congress to increase funding for the project, being built by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

—established a planning commission to study resource allocation in the flood-prone Devils Lake Basin, one of the most prolific waterfowl production areas in the nation, and froze funding of a drainage project in the basin until the planning commission has finished its work.

Environmentalists have been seeking this legislation for years since draining has been going on in the basin without any supervision. This has included illegal draining in violation of soil conservation laws. This bill is a major step toward resolution of that problem.

A bill to establish a Department of Natural Resources was beaten. Legislators did create a Natural Resources Council, but left it without an appropriation.

Colorado defeats urban sprawl bill

The Colorado House killed a bill, HB 1092, that would have established "urban service areas" as a step toward controlling urban sprawl within the state. The bill was weakened with amendments and then killed soundly — 61 to 4. Gov. Dick Lamm had backed the land use bill and has vowed to put it on his call for the short session next year.

The House passed a severance tax as part of the governor's tax bill. Lamm had argued that failure to pass a severance tax when surrounding states are

doing so would make Colorado "increasingly vulnerable" to accelerated coal development.

The tax exempts the first \$100,000 of gross proceeds, taxes three per cent of the gross proceeds between \$100,000 and \$300,000, and six per cent of proceeds over \$300,000.

Some citizens in Lake County, enraged by the severance tax and its possible effects on the mining industry, have announced that their county is seceding from the state to create their own state — Leadville.

Compensation offered for land use changes

Land use legislation under consideration in Arizona declares that any regulation which reduces the fair market value of land constitutes a taking of that land and thus requires compensation. The effect of the bill, H 2028 or S 1089, would be to guarantee that landowners would be compensated for even the speculative value of the land prior to the new regulation.

"The necessity for seeking legislative appropriations to implement any planning could seriously limit the extent of the program," says Priscilla Robinson of the Southern Arizona Environmental Council.

Also before Arizona lawmakers are bills to establish a Department of Energy and a Solar Research Commission. A bill which provides for a tax deduction for installation of solar energy devices on homes has also been introduced.

Fastest legislature in the Northwest

Associated Press reports that Wyoming has the "fastest" legislature in the Northwest. Montana has the largest legislature and Oregon has the busiest, according to an AP regional survey.

The "fastest" distinction means that Wyoming legislators meet for the shortest length of time of any state lawmaking group in the region — 40 days. The Montana legislature meets for 90 days and the Utah legislature for 60 days.

No time limit is specified in Idaho, Oregon, or Colorado. Action is hastened after 60 days in Idaho, however, when lawmakers' \$10-a-day pay stops. Colorado expects its proceedings to last at least until June.

regional
legislative
review

Onlooker watches over North Dakota news

Essential for North Dakota residents and of interest to others in the region who are interested in comparative legislation is a new publication known as **The Onlooker**. The publisher, Mike Jacobs, touts **The Onlooker** as a "scrappy little rag." Readers find that it is chock-full of news and analysis of legislative action during the session.

The Onlooker reviews plans for development of North Dakota resources and who is making them. In addition, Jacobs is writing a continuing series on the American Issues at the N. D. Legislature which could be generalized to apply to any legislature: freedom of speech, voting, property.

Past editions have focused upon the nationwide search for lithium, water diversion to support coal development (including a discussion of Indian rights), taxes, the Equal Rights Amendment, and gasification plans in North Dakota, in addition to weekly legislative updates.

Mike and his wife and business manager, Suzette, support the enterprise exclusively with \$10 subscriptions which cover weekly issues during the legislature and twice monthly issues after, plus special reports. Write to Mike Jacobs, Box 351, Mandan, North Dakota 58554.

Western Roundup

High Country News-13
Friday, April 11, 1975

House considers Hells Canyon bill

Hearings were held this week (April 10) on legislation to protect Hells Canyon from the construction of dams or other federal projects on the banks of the Middle Snake River in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The U.S. House Subcommittee on National Parks and Recreation will vote on H.R. 30 in mid-April and the full Interior Committee will vote after that. Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.) introduced the bill. H.R. 30 would establish a 700,000 acre Hells Canyon National Recreation Area to be administered by the Forest Service, would designate the inner walls of Hells Canyon as wilderness areas immediately, and would classify the 101 mile stretch of the free-flowing Middle Snake as a Wild and Scenic River, prohibiting dams. Another bill has been introduced by Rep. Steven D. Symms (R-Ida.) which would invoke a four-year ban on any new federal action on the Middle Snake. Opponents of this bill say it is only a maneuver to block the protective legislation. The chairman of the subcommittee, Rep. Roy A. Taylor (D-N.C.), said he is interested in testimony or letters that address the differences between the two bills. Rep. Teno Roncalio (D-Wyo.), who last year opposed the protection bill, said he is interested in receiving letters to determine public sentiment this session.

On another front, state environmental protection agencies in Idaho and Oregon recently denied certification of two proposed dams on the Middle Snake on grounds the dams might lead to violations of water quality. The dams, Pleasant Valley and Mountain Sheep, were proposed by Pacific Northwest Power Co. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality are the two agencies involved.

Sen. Hatfield criticizes Forest Service

Sen. Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.) has told a panel of top Forest Service officials that he is disappointed in their efforts to reach the allowable yield of 13.3 billion board feet a year from the national forests, dissatisfied with their plans to reforest only another 3.3 million acres, and unhappy with the trend toward "speculation bidding" by timber firms, a practice Hatfield said is contributing to higher lumber and housing costs. The Forest Service replied that it was acting under instructions from the Office of Management and Budget which told them to expect several million dollars deferred by the administration, according to the *Idaho Statesman*. Hatfield called it "a national scandal" that the Forest Service had made \$480 million from timber sales last year and it had been turned into the U.S. Treasury without reinvesting a sufficient part in replanting the national forests. Hatfield was particularly critical of the North Idaho and Montana Forest Service programs where the allowable cut was 1.7 billion board feet and only 1.3 million board feet were cut.

Consumers will subsidize aluminum

Construction of the disputed Alumax Pacific Corp. aluminum plant anywhere in the Pacific Northwest would cost consumers of electricity a "monthly subsidy" of between \$500,000 and \$5 million, according to the Natural Resources Law Institute. A NRLI study says expensive new nuclear or coal-fired power plants would be needed to feed the high-energy consuming operation and Alumax (Amax Aluminum Corp.), which buys its electricity at wholesale industrial rates, would pay only a fraction of the increased regional power cost. The study notes that customers in the Bonneville Power Administration system enjoy cheap power because it comes mostly from hydroelectric dams. Thermal power sources generate power that is three to seven times as costly. The study concludes, "An energy-intensive industry such as aluminum processing is entirely inappropriate for the state (of Oregon)."

ROMCOE achievement awards given

Environmental achievements awards were presented by the Rocky Mountain Center on Environment (ROMCOE) in Denver April 2. The 1974 award recipients are: media, Richard J. Schneider, *Rocky Mountain News*, Denver, Colo.; government, Francis Bardanouve, State Representative, Harlem, Mont.; education, Elizabeth Wright Ingraham, Wright-Ingraham Institute, Colorado Springs; industry, Adolph Coors Company, Golden, Colo.; citizen organization, Murie Audubon Society, Casper, Wyo.; and citizen individual, Doris Milner, President of the Montana Wilderness Association, Hamilton, Mont. Charlie Watson with the Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association, Carson City, Nev., received the 1974 Edward Hobbs Hilliard, Jr. Memorial Award.



Wild Horse Act ruled unconstitutional

A federal court in New Mexico has ruled that the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971 is unconstitutional. The act had been the only protection for about 40,000 wild horses and burros in the nation. The court ruled that the states, not the federal government, have jurisdiction. The New Mexico court order was stayed by the judges until the U.S. Supreme Court can hear an appeal, and in the meantime the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will continue its management of wild horses and burros on public lands. There have been reports of individuals taking advantage of the uncertain legal situation to kill or capture wild animals grazing on the national resource lands, but such action is still illegal and can be prosecuted. It could take the Supreme Court more than a year to rule on the appeal. According to a spokesman for WHOA (Wild Horse Organized Assistance), there are unsubstantiated reports of persons planning to kill wild horses en masse as soon as the Supreme Court rules in the case. Whoever manages the horses is likely to have serious problems coming up with fair regulations for the horses, which compete with wild game and with cattle and sheep for forage. Above are wild horses in the McCulloch Peak area of Big Horn Basin, Wyo. Photo by Roger Slocum.

Briefly noted . . .

Environmentalists are challenging a Forest Service decision to allow platinum exploration in a remote area above the Stillwater River north of Yellowstone National Park. The Forest Service approved plans for Johns-Manville Corp. drilling a 3,000 foot exploratory tunnel. Since road construction, blasting, and tree removal are necessary, the Friends of the Earth is charging that a full environmental impact statement should have been prepared. Ed Dobson, Northern Plains representative for the Friends of the Earth, said the Forest Service never announced it had approved the project, thus giving no opportunity for appeals. He said the issue would be taken to court.

A group of citizens calling themselves the Platte River Protective Association has banded together to influence the routing of a power line south of Loveland, Colo. The group says the Platte River Power Authority's proposed route would cut through farms and that the line would affect farmers "not just in the construction phase, but forever." The group is asking the PRPA to consider using land near Interstate 25 which would make the line a little longer but a lot less disruptive.

Homesteaders who want to get back to the land will start settling in Idaho on about 300,000 irrigated acres. The Idaho Carey Act Land Development Association is spending about \$210 million dollars on the land, one tract of which is in the Rexburg area and another in southern Idaho along the Snake River. The project will require 3,100 cubic feet per second from the Snake River and will need about 750,000 horsepower for irrigation. The state will get \$5 per acre when the land is settled and another \$5 per acre when it is patented. The *Idaho Statesman* newspaper account of the venture did not say how much the settlers will have to pay.



Thoughts from the Distant Corner

by Marge Higley

I had hardly finished my breakfast this morning when the chirping of sparrows on the patio reminded me that the bird feeder was probably empty. Another spring storm had covered the ground with snow, and the grey sky boded more to come. The little birds flew only as far as the fence, where they watched as I dumped birdseed into the feeder.

As I turned to go back inside, I was surprised to see a robin huddled under the shrubbery near the door. His feathers, fluffed out around him, were probably some protection against the chill wind, but he seemed to be visibly shivering, and I wondered if he was too cold to fly, since he made no attempt to move as I approached.

"Ho, there!" I told him. "You're supposed to be a harbinger of spring, but you picked a mighty blustery day to show up!"

He was still there a few moments later when I went out to scatter a handful of crumbs across the dry end of the patio for him. He showed no interest in the crumbs until the sparrows hopped down to investigate them, then he suddenly bestirred himself and aggressively made it known that the crumbs were his, and his alone.

His gluttonous actions reminded me of something I had once read about the ravenous appetite of the robin, but I couldn't remember the details, so I got out the bird books to see if I could find it. By the time I had read the chapter on robins in about the third book, I still had not found what I was looking for, but had learned a few other interesting facts.

The first book states: "Although the robin is considered to be the first sign of spring, many robins actually spend the winters as far north as New England." I wonder if that fact would be any consolation to the shivering little creature outside my door?

The second book, describing the robin's nest: "... well cemented with mud carried in their beaks from the nearest wet spot. If natural mud cannot be found, the female has been known to fill her bill with dust and then dip it in a birdbath." Well, this year's robins will be able to find plenty of mud — when the snow melts!

The third book informed me that the robin is the "lush" of the bird world, displaying a great fondness for fermented fruits and berries. That fact didn't really surprise me, because a couple of years ago I actually saw it happen, right in my own back yard. It was in early September, and I was awakened one morning by the sound of birds outside the window. This was no symphony of bird-song I heard — it was a cacophony of raucous shrieks and squawks which made me suspect that a cat had surprised the robin family who dwelt in the apple tree. Hurrying out to the rescue, I was surprised to see, not a cat, but 20 or more robins fighting each other for the privilege of gorging on the over-ripe fruit hanging from my neighbor's choke-cherry bush. The bush was full of the noisy birds, and a row of equally noisy ones sat on the nearby fence, from which vantage point they could dive into the bush, dislodging some other poor robin. Some of the displaced birds fell to the ground, then literally staggered across the lawn to a shady spot; some flew unsteadily back to the fence to await another turn; one little fellow managed to fly precariously to the roof of the patio, where he peered over the edge, shuddered, then tucked his head under his wing! I could hardly believe what I was seeing — whoever heard of drunken robins?

In the fourth book, I finally found what I had been looking for concerning the ravenous appetite of the robin. Along with fruit, berries, beetles, and other insects, young robins have been known to eat as much as 14 feet of earthworms in a single day. Fourteen feet of earthworms!

If it's still snowing tomorrow, I have a feeling I'd better stock up on bread and suet!



Eavesdropper

environmental news from around the world

LOONEY LIMERICKS

by Zane E. Cology

They offer a voice in Interior
To the West, long treated inferior.
Our thoughts we could send
Federal policy to bend,
But we wonder if Stan's the right courier.

FEDERAL LAND USE BILL. A major effort is being mounted by Rep. Sam Steiger (R-Ariz.) to kill the federal land use bill in the House Interior Committee. Steiger has identified 10 key undecided representatives including Teno Roncalio (D-Wyo.), James Santini (D-Nev.), Allan Howe (D-Utah), and Manuel Lujan (R-N.M.), according to **Land Use Planning Reports**. There have been some congressional attempts to gain passage of a land use measure by tying it to energy facility siting legislation. Such an approach is recommended against in a Federal Energy Administration draft environmental impact statement on proposed energy legislation.

WHALE KILL BOYCOTT READIED. Congress and the Commerce Department are considering tough economic sanctions against Japan if it continues excessive whaling. Commerce is considering banning imports of Japanese fish products and lawmakers are considering a boycott of Japanese autos, cameras, and appliances if the slaughter doesn't stop, according to Ann McFeatters of the Scripps Howard News Staff.

WORTHLESS LAND SALES. The Federal Trade Commission has accused two of the nation's largest land sales companies of selling more than 900 square miles of "virtually useless and virtually worthless" land to unsuspecting buyers, according to **Land Use Planning Reports**. The FTC says Horizon Corp. and AMREP Corp. misled consumers into "putting thousands of dollars into phantom investments for which they may never get any return." AMREP was accused of painting grass green and attaching pine cones to trees to make the properties look good in slide and film shows. The disputed sales concern land in Arizona, Florida, Missouri, New Mexico, and Texas.

BILL COULD EVADE NEPA. Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) has introduced a bill, S. 740, to speed up the development of energy resources on federal lands and on the outer continental shelf. The bill establishes an Energy Production Board to develop an expedited review process for pipelines, energy facilities, or "other needed and essential energy projects." The board's expedited procedures would become law unless Congress disapproved them within 60 days of their submission. "This provision could short cut the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act on the preparation of impact statements for energy projects and related facilities," says the Sierra Club.

FOUR BILLION PEOPLE. On about April 1 the world's population broke the four billion mark, according to the United Nations consultant. The calculator, Dr. L. C. Nehrt, says the figure is only an approximation. "No one knows for certain what world population is. India isn't sure, plus or minus 50 million, of its own population," he says.

ZERO GROWTH FOR SOME. West Germany, France, Canada, and the Netherlands have all reached zero population growth or negative population growth, according to the Paris-based National Institute for Demographic Studies.

BULGARIA BUYS BABIES. Faced with a labor shortage and population growth near zero, Bulgaria is trying to buy more babies. To stimulate births in 1974 the government upped allowances for children, made a stricter abortion law allowing legal abortions only for women who have borne two children, and expanded state nurseries.

900,000 U.S. ABORTIONS IN 1974. There were at least 750,000 legal abortions in the U.S. in 1973 and about 900,000 in 1974, according to a new study on the effects of the Supreme Court decision on abortion. By comparison, there were 600,000 reported legal abortions in 1972, the year before the court struck down state laws that restricted the operation. "Our figures illustrate clearly the importance of the Supreme Court's decision in enabling thousands of women to obtain safe, legal abortions," said Christopher Tietze, principal investigator in the study.

Book reviews

Whole Earth Epilog

Penguin Books, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 1974. \$4.00, paper cover

Review by Peter Wild

The last **Whole Earth Catalog**, a phenomenon selling hundreds of thousands of copies, announced its own demise in 1971 and called for others to fill the vacuum. However, like Frank Sinatra, it's back again. The atlas-sized **Whole Earth Epilog** explains where to buy almost anything, it would seem, outside of the junk that is available from the trash heaps of shopping centers. The subtitle, **Access to Tools**, points to looms, solar panels, packs for dogs, books on natural childbirth, aquaculture and septic tanks, rather than to the phoney wood paneling, electric typewriters, and Barbie Dolls that glut our lives. Throughout the encyclopedia runs a general emphasis on publications and tools helpful to those whose philosophy is one on living in harmony with the earth.

There will be those who have no need to buy a windmill, fine hiking equipment, or a text discussing the nest structure of the rufous-breasted cast-leadbuilder. Yet the kaleidoscope is fascinating in itself, and it is interlaced, additionally, with a variety of related reviews, hints, poetry, and articles, making this book, at a dollar less than its predecessor, a lasting feast for a bargain price.

Time to Choose

by the Energy Policy Project of the Ford Foundation
Published by Ballinger Publishing Co., Cambridge, Mass., 1974.

This book is the culmination of a two year, \$4 million inquiry into the nation's energy crisis. Its authors — a team of economists, lawyers, writers, scientists, and engineers — were brought together by the Ford Foundation to seek to identify the nation's energy policy choices.

Their principal finding is that the U.S. can balance its energy budget, control pollution and avoid reliance on insecure oil sources abroad by slowing its growth rate in energy consumption. In fact, our energy growth can be trimmed to about two per cent a year or, in time, even to zero without adversely affecting the economy.

Among the prime candidates for energy belt-tightening are the American automobile as well as homes, offices, and factories. To achieve the reductions necessary for zero energy growth, gasoline consumption for autos would have to increase from a 1970 average of 13.6 miles per gallon (mpg) to 20 mpg in 1985 and to 33 mpg in year 2000. The technical knowledge is already available for such increases but the consumers must make the choice to achieve that growth.

Much development is necessary to make use of solar energy for home heating and industrial requirements and to completely utilize organic sources of energy such as burning garbage to heat power plants or conversion of plant life to methane gas for use in place of natural gas.

Tough public questions are tackled in **A Time to Choose**: the energy industry's problems — including breeder reactors and coal strip mining, to name but a few. Specific actions are recommended.

Classified Ads

Weaner Pigs for Sale; Active, Healthy. Call (307) 332-4117 or 332-3311.

BULLETIN BOARD

High Country News-15
Friday, April 11, 1975

ANTI-HATHAWAY GROUP FORMS

The Citizens for a Good Secretary of Interior has been formed to protest the nomination of former Wyoming Governor Stanley K. Hathaway to the position of Secretary of Interior. The group is circulating petitions and raising money to charter a bus back to the hearings in Washington, D.C., on April 21. To obtain petitions, find out about the bus, or donate money to the cause contact: V. Crane Wright, 631 Emerson, Denver, Colo. 80218.

BLM TIMBER STATEMENT

The Bureau of Land Management has issued a draft environmental impact statement on timber management on its 23 million acres of commercial forest land. The statement considers possible alternative programs under various timber harvest levels. Copies of the statement and comments on it should be directed to: Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240. Comment deadline is May 7. Copies are also available at most BLM state and district offices.

SOLAR SEMINAR

A solar seminar to acquaint architects, engineers, and business executives with the state of the art will be held at the Denver Botanic Gardens May 1-2. The public is invited. For further information contact: Richard L. Crowther, 2830 E. 3rd Ave., Denver, Colo. 80206, (303)355-2301.

EARTHCARE WILDERNESS CONFERENCE

The National Audubon Society and the Sierra Club are hosting the world's first privately sponsored international conference on wilderness. An action plan for global cooperation will be the goal of the conference. Participants from around the globe will converge on New York City June 5-8, 1975. For more information write EARTHCARE, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10017, (212)867-0798.

SOLAR DIRECTORY

Environmental Action of Colorado is distributing copies of a **Solar Directory**, edited by Carolyn Pesko. The directory includes: solar information organizations, solar manufacturers, solar and energy conservation research, solar energy classes, and solar legislation. Copies are available for \$20 from Solar Directory, Environmental Action of Colorado, University of Colorado, 1100 14th St., Denver, Colo. 80202.

ENERGY WHO'S WHO

The Northern Plains Resource Council has prepared a report on the various companies whose actions indicate serious interest in building power plants or synthetic fuel plants in Montana. **Energy Companies Active in Montana** has been sent to all Montana legislators. For a copy write NPRC, 421 Stapleton Building, Billings, Mont. 59101.

If High Country News were advertised in Playboy....



WHAT SORT OF WOMAN READS HIGH COUNTRY NEWS?

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(To send a complimentary copy to a friend, include his/her address.)

The idea behind this ad came from reader Bob Wallick of Bighorn, Wyo. If you have an idea for a HCN ad, send it along.

16 Ed Dobson

Friend of the earth and strip mine showman

Ed Dobson runs a traveling strip mine show. He wanted to be a baseball player, and later, a sports broadcaster. But while half-heartedly doing graduate work in broadcasting, he began to immerse himself in the lore of the West. He spent all of his time with books on the West by Wallace Stegner and Joseph Wood Krutch when he should have been studying a subject called "Research and Pedagogy in Mass Communications," he says.

A trip to the Grand Canyon one summer after his first year in graduate school clinched his future.

Walking to the bottom and back to the top, "I earned an awful lot of appreciation for the Grand Canyon," Dobson says. When he later heard that dams were planned for Marble Gorge and Bridge Canyon, he just "went through the roof. I went straight to San Francisco because I'd heard that the Sierra Club was trying to get something done. And I'd heard about this fellow David Brower," he says.

He didn't meet David Brower, then president of the Sierra Club, on that trip. But partially through Brower's influence, today Dobson devotes himself to the protection of the West. He failed his course in "Research and Pedagogy." He now is known as the man with the traveling strip mine show — and as a staunch advocate for the earth.

Dobson, originally from New York, has been on the road in the West since 1972. If you ask him how long he intends to stay in the traveling strip mine show business, he'll smile. He's been asked that question at least once a month since 1972. "As long as it takes," he says.

Dobson responds to questions with a blitz of information. His slide show runs for two hours "though I'm willing to talk all night," he says. His talk, mainly about strip mining, also includes information about agriculture, water, reclamation, coal-fired power plants, alternative sources of energy, and energy economics.

If someone wants to learn about strip mining in less than half an hour, Dobson just tells them it can't be done. "What could I cut out?" he asks. For most people who've seen the show, it's a tough question.

He didn't start out with the "technical rap" he says he uses now. He used to show a 10-minute film and sing songs. At that point, power company officials came to his programs, Dobson says, but "wrote me off as a passing thing." In less than two months on the road, Dobson collected enough money to buy two slide projectors. He began to build his own slide show and to master the subject of strip mining in the West.

That's when the power company officials quit coming, Dobson says. Fewer holes in his arguments, fewer questions.

Lately the show seems to suspend conversation. "Audiences go catatonic," Dobson says. "There's so much to learn, and I give them so much at once."

Dobson is Northern Plains Representative of Friends of the Earth (FOE), a national conservation group. FOE foundation pays his travel expenses, up to a maximum of \$175 per month. Friendly local people usually provide him with meals and a bed. Beyond that, every penny Dobson collects comes to him by passing the hat after his shows.

He's been living hat-to-mouth like this since 1971. His activist stance was shaping up even before that, when he was a part of the ABC faction of the Sierra Club, the self-proclaimed "active, bold, and constructive" members of the club who were followers of David Brower. Brower split off from the club in the late '60s to form Friends of the Earth.

Dobson's first two personal encounters with Brower both occurred on late rides to the airport after Brower had given a speech — once in Florida and once in Ohio. The first time, Dobson found the conservation leader "electrifying." The second encounter altered Dobson's life.

"I guess he was convinced that I was convinced," Dobson says of the occasion. As it grew closer to the time the plane was to



leave, Brower asked Dobson to go to England and Germany to study strip mining and reclamation.

"That's Brower," Dobson says. "Extremely decisive, spontaneous, and when he moves, he moves all at once. That's good. I like that."

Within two weeks, financed by Brower, Dobson was off to Europe. "I've never recovered," Dobson says.

When he returned to the U.S., Dobson became the Appalachian representative for Friends of the Earth and continued a study he had already begun of strip mining in Ohio.

He began to shift his attentions to the West when he saw that coal companies were looking in that direction. "By the middle of 1972 we had a pretty good idea that they were going to blackmail the East by developing the West and saying we can't possibly have a national reclamation law because the conditions are so different," Dobson says. "Many of the early companies to come West were speculators and they left a bad taste in the mouth of a lot of the ranchers in the area whether they were for or against coal. A lot of ranchers just didn't like the speculators."

As the coal operators began the shift, western ranchers began to look for allies in the East. One family, the John Reddings of Sarpy Creek, Mont., "was upset enough to grasp at straws," Dobson says. "And one of the straws they grasped at was me."

At the Reddings' request, Dobson came to Montana for a visit. As soon as he got there, he says he knew he wanted to stay. He hitchhiked to the San Francisco Friends of the Earth headquarters and said he was going to Montana. Did they need a representative there? He has made the Reddings' ranch home base ever since.

"When I first came to Montana, I don't think I was too well received," Dobson says. "People were indignant that someone

could move into the area and appear to be telling them how to run their outfit." That reaction came from agricultural people and conservationists as well as from people who had an interest in developing coal. Dobson admits that when he came, he was green. He knew about strip mining in the East, but not in the West. Now, three years later, he's rarely challenged on the facts, only on strategies. His hard line stands make some of his allies nervous.

Dobson says he takes the strongest stance he can defend. He'll compromise only after he's defended the position that he believes in.

On the issue of strip mining in the Northern Plains, that philosophy makes Dobson an abolitionist. He, like Rep. Ken Hechler of West Virginia, would like to see an end to strip mining, and a rejuvenation of the deep-mined coal industry. Dobson also pushes for the development of alternative sources of power and for zero energy growth by 1980.

In the West, where a huge investment in strip mining has already been made, he is advocating a phase-out of strip mining. "That means no new starts," Dobson says.

He's taken the stand because he doesn't believe that in the Northern Plains the land can be reclaimed. Even where the best reclamation efforts have been made in the Northern Plains — at Colstrip, Mont. — desirable vegetative cover has not been sustained. On mined land at Colstrip, a planting of Sudan grass made an impressive showing the first year, but failed to reseed itself the second.

"We don't understand all the implications of strip mining — how much it interrupts the surface soils' ability to retain moisture and to cycle nutrients," Dobson says. "Until we know more, we need a moratorium."

A number of coal companies say that with fertilizer and water they can speed up natural processes and make reclamation succeed. Growing things with massive applications of fertilizer and water is called hydroponics, Dobson says. A rancher friend of his claims he can grow things that way in the back of his pickup. That doesn't equal reclamation of the land, Dobson insists.

The message he wants to spread and the inspiring people he's met along the way keep Dobson working. He used to concentrate his efforts in Montana and North Dakota. Lately he's been making more frequent trips to Wyoming and has plans to take his show to Colorado and Utah. He wants to keep the issue of strip mining alive, even though some of his allies, more deeply involved in lobbying for legislation, have set aside the war on strip mining to work for mining regulations, coal export policies, and plant siting acts.

For those who say his crusade to stop strip mining is extreme, Dobson likes to quote David Brower:

"Polite conservationists leave no mark save the scars on the earth that could have been prevented had they stood their ground."

by Joan Nice

Ed Dobson, Northern Plains Representative of Friends of the Earth, can be reached at his office in Montana: P.O. Box 882, Billings, Mont., 59103. New members of his staff are Randall Gloege, Northern Rockies Representative, 626 Howard, Billings, 59102; Jean Warren, Montana Representative, 509 Hill St., Missoula, Mont. 59801; Paula Ward, North Dakota Representative, 800 N.W. 15th St., Minot, N.D. 58701; and Anne Kunze, South Dakota Representative, Alpena, S.D. 57312. An Escalante Representative of Friends of the Earth has also been named: Gordon Anderson, 2846 Merry Lane, Colorado Springs, Colo. 80909.

Ed Dobson's traveling strip mine show is on the road for "as long as it takes."

Dear Friends,

It has been an unusually hectic two weeks. Wyoming is suddenly at the center of considerable national interest. We must trace the record, our experiences, ask knowledgeable people and report out to the nation. Just who is this man, Stan Hathaway?

As we look at the record, we are distracted by the air of celebration that has set in around the state ever since our former governor, Stanley K. Hathaway, was mentioned as President Ford's probable choice for Secretary of Interior. At last, a familiar face among the feds, some friends tell us. The state is touched with pride.

The Casper Star-Tribune (our only statewide paper) has written one editorial in praise of Hathaway — and two editorials criticizing his critics. "It's time to call a halt to the senseless name calling and airing of prejudices every time an individual is nominated by the President of the United States for high public office," the Star-Tribune says.

When the New York Times came out strongly against the nomination, a Gillette News-Record editorial began: "The New York Times' favorite whipping boy — Wyoming — is getting it again."

The Star-Tribune has carried articles which indicate that Wyoming Gov. Ed Herschler approves of the nomination, the mayor of Rocks Springs approves, some major political figures — even those who have fought Hathaway on environmental issues in the past — praise him, and a Junior Miss at Hathaway's former high school in Torrington thinks "it's great." We in Wyoming may feel a bit closer to the top somehow because this man that we know is moving up. The state's elation makes it hard to get back to the files.

We realize that this is a high honor for the state. And we regret that we can't participate in this statewide celebration. But we

take our stance in good conscience, in defense of land and life in the West. The Hathaway choice is, from all we know about his past, extremely ill-advised.

We have spent most of our time during the past two weeks on the Hathaway nomination: digging through files, putting information in order, and answering the phone. The flurry was stimulated by a few calls that came in two weeks ago. Lately, the pace has stepped up and we have spent entire days on the phone. People and publications in the country interested in natural resources issues turned to Wyoming for help on this — and we seemed to be one of the many sources in the state that they tapped.

The inquiries kept us on our toes. At times we had to make tough decisions quickly. Should we leap into investigations ourselves — or try to convince more well-heeled publications to do the research for us? We make no bones about being an advocacy journal, but on this issue we had to determine just how active a stance we were going to take.

An ad hoc group based in Denver, Citizens for a Good Secretary of Interior, asked to use our mailing list to reach people in a petition campaign opposing Hathaway's nomination. On the one hand, we feared we might offend readers who didn't share our position on the nomination. On the other, we knew some readers would want to know about an organized attempt to make opposition heard in Washington. We decided to support Citizens for a Good Secretary of Interior. Relaying the message through the next edition of the paper wasn't a solution because it wouldn't have allowed those who wanted to work on the campaign enough time. So whether you searched for signatures or used the mailing to start up a blaze in your wood stove, we hope you understand our stance.

—the editors

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