Montana Kaimin, January 18, 1983

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this or to ensure that Montana some action either to prevent and the Legislature has to take water supplies and are preparing to tap into them.

Fritz said officials whose plans to use water that flows from Montana or plans to build thousand-mile-long pipelines to supply these states with Montana water are not as absurd as they first sound, at least not to the folks who want to get their hands on the water, said Gary Fritz, administrator of the Water Management Division of the State Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Fritz said officials whose states are drying up are serious about finding alternate water supplies and are preparing to tap into them.

Montana is in danger of losing water rights to outsiders, and the Legislature has to take some action either to prevent this or to ensure that Montanans are properly compensated for the water that leaves the state, Fritz said.

An example of just how serious dry-state officials are about finding alternate water supplies is the High Plains Ogallala Aquifer Region Study. The U.S. Congress allocated $8 million for a six-year study of the water situation in that region. Completed in August 1982, the study was initiated because the Ogallala Aquifer is running out of water and is expected to be sucked dry in 40 to 60 years. The study proposed means to use declining water supplies (in the region)...(and) to develop plans to increase water supplies in the area.

The Ogallala lies under six percent of the nation's land mass and is a major source of water for agriculture, municipal, commercial and industrial uses in Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Portions of the aquifer also extend into South Dakota and Wyoming.

One percent of the nation's population lives in the Ogallala region. In addition, 16 percent of the nation's total value of livestock, is produced in the region. Because the people and industries of the region depend heavily upon the aquifer's water, the study proposed, among other things, that water from the Missouri River be imported to the region.

Proposals were made to pipe surface water from the Missouri where it flows through Fort Randall, S.D., and from St. Joseph, Mo. Because of the region's large agricultural output, officials in those states may be able to muster enough congressional support to establish federal regulations governing the minimum amount of water that flows from the state to ensure that enough water will reach the point where the proposed pipelines would be. This could limit the amount of water Montanans could use, because less water could be used in the state to make sure that enough was flowing out to meet established federal limits. Related to this is the constant grubbing over the minimum amount of water flowing out of the eastern side of the state by downstream states such as South Dakota, Nebraska and Missouri, which use the water for navigational purposes. Another threat is the direct pipeline exportation of Montana water by out-of-state interests. Montana law forbids the sale or exportation of Montana water without legislative approval. But water expert Stone said Montana's water exportation ban probably would be found unconstitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court if the law were challenged.

Stone cited a similar law enacted by the Texas Legislature forbidding the exportation of Texas water without legislative approval. That law was found unconstitutional because the Supreme Court ruled, water is a Marketable resource and restruction of it constitutes unwarranted interference with interstate commerce.

Montana's law would probably be found unconstitutional on the same grounds, Stone said.

State officials fear that Montana is open to exploitation by out-of-state interests that have already paid to file their water rights. Another plan being considered by Marks is the leasing of surplus water. Marks is drafting a bill that would be financed by May, Kreidich said. The enclosures are needed for fire safety; they seal off floors and prevent fires from spreading, he said.

A new elevator in the Jour- nalism Building that will provide accessibility for the handicapped will be completed by April, but, Kreidich said, it will be in use much sooner.

New projects, such as installation of a sprinkler system in the Fine Arts Building and new roofs for the Liberal Arts and Music buildings, are scheduled to begin this spring. The number of projects planned depends on the amount of money allocated during the current legislative session for construction projects for campus improvements, Kreidich said.

**Water-thirsty states eyeing Montana resources**

By Lance Lovell

**Construction projects continuing on campus**

By Julie Omeichuck

Improving buildings on the University of Montana campus is a never-ending process, John Kreidich, UM planning and construction consultant, said yesterday in an interview.

During Fall Quarter several construction projects were completed, including new roofs for the Art Annex and Grizzly Pool, a heat-recovery system that takes heat out of the Heating Plant stack and puts it back into the system to make it more energy-efficient and painting projects in the Chemistry-Pharmacy, Mathematics and Psychology buildings.

Staircase enclosures in the Liberal Arts, Botany and Fine Arts buildings are expected to be finished by May, Kreidich said. The enclosures are needed for fire safety; they seal off floors and prevent fires from spreading, he said.

**By Gary Fritz, administrator of the Water Management Division of the State Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.**

Fritz said officials whose states are drying up are serious about finding alternate water supplies and are preparing to tap into them. Montana is in danger of losing water rights to outsiders, and the Legislature has to take some action either to prevent this or to ensure that Montanans are properly compensated for the water that leaves the state, Fritz said.

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Currently the RESIDENCE HALLS OFFICE is accepting applications for STUDENT STAFF SUPERVISORY POSITIONS during the 1983-84 academic year. Applicants must be GRADUATE STUDENTS, preferably with Residence Halls experience, or UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS who have had previous experience working in a Residence Hall.

The application may be obtained at the Residence Halls Office, Room 101 Turner Hall. Applicants must have a minimum 2.00 G.P.A., and an interest in Residence Halls or Student Personnel work. Interviews will be held during Spring Quarter and staff selections will be made prior to July 15, 1983. Questions relative to these positions should be directed to the Residence Halls Office. Applications should be completed and returned to the Residence Halls Office by February 11, 1983.

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Currently, the Residence Halls Office is accepting applications for student staff supervisory positions during the 1983-84 academic year. Applicants must be graduate students, preferably with residence halls experience, or undergraduate students who have had previous experience working in a residence hall. The application may be obtained at the Residence Halls Office, Room 101 Turner Hall. Applicants must have a minimum 2.00 G.P.A., and an interest in residence halls or student personnel work. Interviews will be held during spring quarter and staff selections will be made prior to July 15, 1983. Questions relative to these positions should be directed to the Residence Halls Office. Applications should be completed and returned to the Residence Halls Office by February 11, 1983.

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World news

THE WORLD

American, Israeli and Lebanese negotiators set up a sub-committee that "made good progress" yesterday toward ending the 35-year-old state of war between Israel and Lebanon, official spokesmen announced yesterday. It appeared to be the first result of U.S. pressure to quicken the pace of negotiations aimed at removing the more than 60,000 Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian troops from Lebanon. Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salem said the talks were expected to produce a "protocol accord to regulate future relations between neighboring nations, "but a peace treaty is out of the question. It is impossible." Lebanon is opposed to a treaty with Israel, fearing the anger of its Arab neighbors, which cast Egypt out of the Arab brotherhood because of its separate peace with Israel three years ago.

THE NATION

Like many other youths in the Silver Valley, Perry Padley quit his high school at age 16 to work at the silver mine and smelting plant of the Bunker Hill Co. in Idaho. A recent study showed that of 4,000 area workers, three-fourths had not received a high school diploma and 1,000 of these were functionally illiterate. But since the mine closed, Padley and hundreds of other workers are going back to school. In the past year, about 800 Valley residents have obtained their Graduate Equivalency Degree certificates by attending night classes at a local junior high school.

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6—Montana Kaimin • Tuesday, January 18, 1983
Foresters' Ball Week

A lot of hard work, but definitely worth it.

—Will Cowan, forester

Photographs by Doug Decker
Water...

Cost from p. 1 would give the DNRC the authority to lease state water under rigid regulations.

Schwinden has promised Marks his support to establish bi-partisan legislation on the matter.

The most likely customer to lease state water is the coal slurry industry.

There is now a state law for bidding the sale of Montana water for coal slurry use. Professor Stone said this law would also probably be found unconstitutional on the grounds that it interferes with interstate commerce.

If coal-slurry pipeline proponents were allowed to lease state water, existing state water rights would be perfected to determine how much surplus water is available. In addition, the state stands to make enough money from slurry projects to create more water conservation projects, such as irrigation projects.

However, there is much concern by environmentalists, legislators and railroad officials that slurry pipelines would only cause more trouble for the state instead of help save state water.

The slurry process works by mixing crushed coal with water and pumping the slurry through pipelines. Coal slurry pipelines, contrary to what environmental and agricultural groups have claimed in the past, do not require huge amounts of water, Fritz said.

All the coal produced in Montana during 1981 could be pumped out of the state with 20,000 to 30,000 acre feet of water, he said.

An acre foot of water is the amount of water it would take to cover one acre of ground with one foot of water.

An article in Friday's Kaimin inaccurately stated that former ASUM President Steve Spaulding's grade point average fell below 2.0 during his term. At the end of Winter Quarter 1982, a rumor was widely circulated through ASUM that Spaulding's GPA was below 2.0. But Spaulding disproved the rumor by allowing his GPA — above 2.0 — to be released by the Registrar's Office.