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ORAL STATEMENT OF FLETCHER POOL

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THE WITNESS: What I'm disturbed on,

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and it's not on any of that, but I'm afraid that

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they are going to put a dam on Fountain. They

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are talking about two reservoirs uphill from the

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Fountain, up on -- but my water that I have is

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what they call flood water. When the Arkansas

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River gets to a certain height, then we have

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rights to our water over that part of the

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Colorado canal, Lake Meredith Company.

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The way we farm for the hundreds of

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years or however long the system has been in

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there is watch the rainfall at Colorado Springs,

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knowing, then, that the Fountain would flood and

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the river would flood. And that's where we get

16

our water.

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And if they put a dam on the Fountain

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for flood control, I know what will happen.

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They will level the water out in the river and

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the river will run constant, because that's what

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everybody wants. And it will just eliminate

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those that operate off the flood water. And I

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have a real fear of that, and I didn't know

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whether that would be part of this project or

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not.

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1                   The two reservoirs upstream still  
2       bother me some, even though they say it won't  
3       affect flood water. But if the river is  
4       flooding, and Pueblo raises sand about -- you  
5       know, objects to it, they will, you know good  
6       and well they'll shut the water down. And  
7       that's -- a portion of that water is my water.  
8       And that's what we -- that's my main fear.

9                   I have no objection to anything I've  
10      seen today here, except that I worry that. And  
11      I guess, I didn't know whether that was part of  
12      the project or not.

13                  I know Pueblo keeps talking about  
14      putting flood control dams on the -- on  
15      Fountain. And if it does, that's what we judge  
16      what we do, as far as irrigation, is how much  
17      water flows down Fountain. And it will  
18      eliminate my water rights, is what it will do.

19                  Now, I don't know how the courts  
20      would -- my water company says, well, you'll get  
21      your rights some way or other. But I don't see  
22      how it could be done, see, if they leveled it,  
23      you know.

24                  Several years ago they found out the  
25      gates on that had been set wrong for all those

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1       many years, and we were just cheated out of that  
2       much water.

3                   That's all I got to say on that. I

4 just wanted to voice my opposition to any flood  
5 control on Fountain without taking into  
6 consideration the farmers down the river that  
7 operate off the flood water that comes down the  
8 river.

9 (End of La Junta statements.)

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