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EDITOR'S NOTE

On August 30, 1973, the United States and Mexico signed Minute 242 of the International Boundary and Water Commission, an agreement which the two governments described as the permanent and definitive solution to the problem of salinity on the Colorado River. The Instituto Mexicano de Estudios Diplomáticos, the American Society of International Law, and the Natural Resources Journal sponsored an international symposium on March 15, 1974, at Oaxtepec, Mexico, to analyze Minute 242, the situation which gave rise to it, and what it portends for the future. Papers were presented by political leaders, social and political scientists, economists, agronomists, engineers, and lawyers.

The present issue of the Natural Resources Journal contains the proceedings of the symposium together with other articles which bear on the subject. In preparing these articles for publication, we have made three changes from the way in which they were originally presented: we have rearranged the order of presentation, we have interspersed the papers which were not presented at the symposium with the papers that were, and we have edited out duplicative material in order to save space.

Two of the more troubling questions discussed informally among the participants and observers at the symposium were whether the United States Congress would enact the legislation necessary to implement the agreement and what form that legislation would take. This subject was also touched on in some of the papers. Congress did act, passing the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act, 88 Stat. 266, on June 24, 1974. The bill was the version which was favored by the Basin States and opposed by the Nixon administration.