Boulder Dam:

The Boulder Dam may not have penetrated eastern intelligence even Congress as Muscle Shoals has, but listen to talk around Arizona dinner tables and you feel that Muscle Shoals is a small affair so far as wrong doing is concerned, with Boulder Dam. Indeed wrong doing is no word probably to use in connection with M.S. It is a a widly separated opinion. But Boulder Dam is a different matter. Listen to Arizona and read what you can get hold of - look at the maps and any way that you can fix it, I do not see how you can get rid of the conclusion that a whole State is being filched of what logically belongs to it, rightfully belongs to it of a great water power in order to accommodate certain persons of another State which might get its water at home if it would. I am just saying how it looks on the surface of it. But what have you? Of course the thing which up to datehas Arizona on the map for this gadding population is the Colorado Canyon - Colorado Canyon and the painted desert. Anybody that knows that Canyon and its rivers knows that it means an enormous water power. Where does it come from? Where does it go? Will the Colorado River use from its source in to its mouth in the Gulf of California miles long. It is not until it is brought into Arizona that it is available for power in great quantities. Now over eight hundred miles of this river which is available for power is either within the borders of Arizona or is a boundary between it and Nevada and even California. That is, Arizona has geographically the biggest ownership in the river. She argues that since this is hers she should at least have a fair share of the power if the river is going to be used.

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Well, the river is going to be used so it seems. Six states have something to say about it - states in which it rises and which in no case will be able to use it because the damming is impracticable before it gets to Arizona. However, they are furnishing the water, so she should have something to say. Then there is Arizona that owns the bulk of it and Nevada, Arizona and California on which some four hundred miles border it. What could be done had to be worked out with six states. The State that took the most interest in it was the State of California - she wanted it for her southern parks - her great city of Los Angeles, Imperial Valley; possibly by figuring a point twenty-five percent of the water might have been credited to her. What did Congress do? It has allowed her some fifty percent she goes at and Arizona - well, Arizona on whose borders the bulk of Colorado River runs gets, according to the arrangement, eighteen persent of what is called residual water. It looks as if it was the eighteen percent that was left after everybody else had all they wanted. Certainly a strange arrangement and certainly does excite Arizona. The most interesting conversation that I heard while I was in the State - the most emphatic and revolutionary concerned Boulder Dam. We have been jipped they said, robbed of our own and more than one excitable person hinted to me that this was a case for secession.

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