

Task force ponders 'selling' of Great Lakes

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NO LARGE SCALE diversion is going on now, in June, governors from Michigan, Minnesota, Indiana and Wisconsin met at Mackinac Island with Premier William Davis of Ontario and representatives of New York's former premier, Hugh Casey, and Quebec's premier, René Lévesque, to discuss water issues and their opposition to sending the water south or west. They worked out a series of resolutions to protect their fresh water.
 While populations and economic strength have flowed to the southwest, the nation's water supply has not. The

American population has been shifting from the Midwest to the southwest since World War II. According to the 1980 census, the South's population increased 22.4 percent from its 1970 census statistics. The Pacific region population of the United States increased by 19.8 percent, while the mountain region went up 37.1 percent over that decade.
 DEMOGRAPHERS attribute these population shifts to an American desire to get out of the snow belt and to have more spacious living. Water shortages, however, may check these population shifts if diversion doesn't help and if

other alternatives aren't found.
 Nalepa said, "There's a good possibility that diversion is imminent. The water-shortage problem will become more acute in 10 to 20 years."
 Quigley said that as water shortages and costs increase, diversion would become more attractive. But he called diversion a "foolish strategy" for economic, political and ecological reasons.
 "Whose lakes are they, anyway? This remains unclear. Quinn said the lakes legally belong to the federal government, though they also belong to the states they border on and to Ontario and Quebec.

THE FEDERAL government could possibly state that diversion is in the national interest and override whatever the states say, but it would certainly go to the courts," Quinn said.
 Quigley said a federal government override would be in contradiction to the administration's policy of decreased state-level involvement.
 Perhaps ironically, as diversion talk swells, federal spending for Great Lakes research development and monitoring continues to shrink. The amount spent decreased from \$18.8 million in fiscal-year 1981 to a proposed \$3.8 million for fiscal year 1983 — a proposed

80-percent reduction from fiscal-year 1981.
 This was money for the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
ONE OF the six major federal agencies involved in Great Lakes research development and planning has federal money proposed for fiscal year 1983. That is the Great Lakes National Program office in Chicago, which conducts the surveillance and research studies of the Great Lakes. The surveillance is in conjunction with Canadian researchers. Yet this office is scheduled for drastic budget reductions.
 In fiscal-year 1981, the program received \$11.3 million. This amount has been reduced to the proposed \$3.8 for fiscal-year 1983.

Nalepa said the best solution is to have the people and industries come to where the water is and where the economy needs them.
 "We're not gifted with many things in this part of the country. We are gifted with water. I'd hate to see it taken away," Nalepa said.
 Along similar lines, BULKLEY said, "Maybe it makes more sense to bring activities to the areas where the water is."

BULKLEY SAID removing salt from sea water would be "an extreme solution" that should only be considered if it's a choice between having or not having drinking water. It would not be practical on a large-scale level, he said, because it's too energy intensive and too costly.
 Quinn said, "How you view the diversion issue depends on where you live. Few people in the Great Lakes area would like to see it happen." He also said it was natural for those running out of water to look to where the water is.
 Despite his Michigan residency, Quinn said he views the issue on a scientific level.
 Nalepa, too, though he has opinions on the issue, said his job was to provide the decision makers with research so they can make intelligent decisions.

"The only way to make a good judgment is to have research," he said. "We need to know what the ramifications of diversion are; we need to monitor what happens to the Great Lakes."

Armenian classics featured by Oakway

Metropolitan Opera basso Ara Berberian highlights a concert featuring the works of contemporary Armenian composers Hovhannes and Yehudishan with Oakway Symphony Orchestra at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 28 at Harrison High School, 12 Mile west of Middlebelt.
 Now in his fourth season at the Met, Berberian has performed with more than 60 American orchestras and has appeared in Russia, Germany, Israel

and Canada. His performance will honor Armenian composers Alan Hovhannes and Richard Yehudishan, celebrating their 70th and 65th birthdays, respectively.
 Tickets are \$6 and \$3 for senior citizens and students and are available at Madonna College, Hamlet, Michigan; Belmont Inn and Southfield Cultural Arts Division or can be obtained by calling Oakway Symphony Orchestra's

office at 476-5544 or 522-7846.
 Hovhannes and Yehudishan are active composers who have produced a significant number of works over the span of their careers.
 Specific works performed in the concert include the Yehudishan's Chorale Prelude, "Armenian Suite" and "Lalezar" and "Prayer of St. Gregory" by Hovhannes. Additionally, guest conductor Dr. Harry Begian of the University of Illinois Music Department will conduct selections from Khachaturian's "Three Dances from Gayne."
 Begian has served as director of bands at Michigan State University and at Wayne State University. He received a bachelor's and master's degrees from Wayne State University in Detroit, and later earned his doctorate at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
 Also featured in the afternoon program is flutist Pamela Hill, a principal with the symphony and a frequent performer with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. Hill will accompany Berberian in "Lalezar." The final featured performer in the program will be Oakway Symphony Orchestra's conductor and music director Francesco Di Biasi performing on the trumpet Hovhannes's "Prayer of St. Gregory."

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