

ROOSEVELT DAM NEAR COMPLETION

**TEDDY AND FAMILY
WILL HELP CELEBRATE**

Construction Watched by Engineers of World—More Than 1000 Feet Across the Top.

The last stone has been laid in the parapet walls of the Roosevelt dam and preparations are now under way for its formal opening on March 18. Ex-President Roosevelt, for whom the massive structure has been named, accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt, Archie and Ethel, will participate in the three-day celebration.

Located in an almost inaccessible canyon, sixty miles from a railroad, the rapid and successful construction of the dam has been watched with interest by engineers all over the world. The massive walls rise two hundred and eighty-four feet from foundation to parapet. Its length, on top, is one thousand eighty feet and across it runs a road-way twenty feet in width.

Just below the point where the Tonto creek empties into it the Salt Lake river enters one of the most magnificent canyons of the west, forming an ideal dam site. Behind the structure the waters of the turbulent stream will form a reservoir twenty-five miles long and more than two hundred feet deep. Its capacity is approximately 56,528,000,000 cubic feet or of sufficient quantity to cover the entire state of Delaware with a sheet of water one foot deep.

The waters held back by the dam will be used for the irrigation of more than two hundred thousand acres of land in the vicinity of Phoenix, Arizona, and the power created at the dam will be transmitted electrically for more than a hundred miles down the valley to operate pumps. These pumps will raise underground water to supplement the surface supply and increase the irrigable acreage. It is estimated by the reclamation service that about sixty thousand acres will be irrigated by subterranean waters, available for irrigation purposes only through the operation of such pumps.

The building of the dam was preceded by the construction of a wagon road one hundred miles long, which, for practically half its length was blasted from the precipitous walls of the canyon. The construction of the road in itself is considered a marvelous feat of engineering and was a stupendous task. The laborers who built the road were mostly Apache

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Indians. The trip to the dam will be made by the ex-president over this road from Phoenix.

Tonto basin, now deeply buried by the waters of the dam, was for years known as the rendezvous of outlaws and Indian thieves of the famous Geronimo's band. Officials of the reclamation service are elated over the success of this engineering feat. The result, they say, will soon be apparent in a transformation of conditions unprecedented in the history of irrigation. As if by a sweep of a magician's wand, flourishing crops will rise from Arizona's desert land, villages, hamlets and thriving cities will dot the surface. Scientific agriculturists will claim these former arid lands as their own through Uncle Sam's beneficence and incidentally through the reclamation service.

FOREST FIRE BILL HAS GOOD CHANCE

Salem, Ore., Feb. 17.—Prospects in the senate are much brighter for retention of the appropriation of \$50,000 for prevention of forest fires in house bill 50, by Buchanan. Instead of being favored by only two members of ways and means committee of the senate, as appeared yesterday, four members have signed a report to prevent reduction of the amount.

Chairman Albee, Calkins, Sinnott and Nottingham have signed the majority report in favor of the bill as it came from the house, while Hawley, Wood and Patton want the appropriation cut to \$20,000, a sum regarded as entirely inadequate by the friends of the bill.

STUDENTS WANT CONTINUOUS SESSIONS

Pearsons Academy, Walla Walla, Wash.—Students of Pearsons Academy are circulating a petition asking the faculty to substitute a continuous session for the morning and afternoon sessions. They say that they would rather get up earlier in the morning and have classes begin at 8 o'clock and work straight through until 1 o'clock in the afternoon than to begin the morning session at 9 o'clock and close the afternoon at 3 o'clock as at present. They claim that they can do better work if they begin early and work right through until lunch time than if they break the day's work up into two sessions. The action of the academy faculty upon the petition is not yet known.

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