

THE BONNEVILLE DAM CHRONICLE

Delivered by Mail
Every Friday

This Week's Thought

An injurious truth has no merit over an injurious lie. Neither should ever be uttered. —Mark Twain

VOL. III, NO. 40

BONNEVILLE

HOOD RIVER

CASCADE LOCKS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 1937

Fishladder Continues to Get Attention

The Washington shore fishladder continued to be the scene of much activity during the past week. Section 11 was poured to the top of the flow slab, while sections 12 and 13 are ready for the first pours on the floors of the diffusion chambers and footings.

In section 14 diffusion chamber 8 has been poured to the bottom of the flow slab, and section 15 to the top of the flow slab. Part of the section containing diffusion chamber 10, and three of the weirs, have been poured to plus 18 feet.

The walls and center pier of the entrance bay have reached plus 25 feet, and the north retaining wall plus 17 feet. The fishlock block stands at plus 50 feet, save for the center section.

The upstream end of the fishlock block is nearly ready for a pour which will carry it to plus 60 feet.

A small pour was made on the wingwall which brings the wingwall mass section to plus 56 1/2 feet. Work has also been done on shoring to support the beams and brackets which when poured will support the floor slab on the wingwall at plus 60 feet.

Some progress has also been made on the piers, most spectacular part of the dam construction. Pier 1 has been poured to plus 54 feet, piers 2, 6 and 8 to plus 76 feet. Some gate slot grouting was done on piers 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

On the downstream revetment scour slab where loose rock was dumped some time ago, concrete was placed this week. This slab, in addition to the regular revetment, will assist in preventing scour.

On the Oregon side of the spillway dam, outside girders were poured in bay 10, between piers 10 and 11.

A couple of latch frames were grouted in during the week.

The third step cofferdam in one bay was finally completed and pumping begun, but after the water reached minus two feet the level remained stationary, due to leakage. It is planned to go after the leaks rather than replace the cofferdam. The water must be pumped out to the present top of the ogee sections, which sand at minus eight feet and which will be poured to plus 24 feet. About 3500 cubic yards will be required in each bay.

EX-SUPERINTENDENT DIES

Valentine W. Tomkins, 72, who was for 27 years superintendent of the locks and canal at Cascade Locks, died Tuesday night at Ashland after an illness of many months.

Mr. Tomkins was in government service as a civilian employe of the war department for 45 years prior to his retirement two years ago.

Funeral services are set for 10:30 A.M. Friday from Trinity chapel in Portland. Mr. Tomkins was past master of Bridal Veil Masonic lodge. Masonic graveside services are planned.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ouida B. Tomkins, and three daughters, Miss Alice E. Tomkins and Mrs. Kenneth Stone Hall of Portland and Mrs. J. O. Emmons, Corvallis; one son, Paul B. Tomkins of Portland, and a sister, Miss Eileen M. Tomkins in Middlesex, England. Mr. Tomkins was born in Cork, Ireland.

With U.P.



Dave Marvin Resigns, Takes U.P. Post

Dave M. Marvin, chief clerk at Bonneville in the office of the United States engineers almost since the project started, has given up his post there to take a job as assistant in the office of the traffic manager of the Union Pacific railroad. Marvin was employed by the railroad for several years before coming to Bonneville.

His place here will be filled by J. W. Brownfield, who has been his assistant for some time.

Marvin had charge of issuance of all passes for inspection of the dam project, and in this capacity came in contact with many famous personages. He was also active in Bonneville post, No. 88, American Legion. Mrs. Marvin and their daughter Marjorie will accompany Mr. Marvin to Portland.

FOREST INVENTORY MADE

The monumental task of cruising and mapping forest resources of Oregon and Washington swung into its final lap last week when W. H. Bolles of the Pacific Northwest Forest Experiment station, U. S. forest service, ran the last mile of timber cruise in Baker county, northeastern Oregon. The forest survey authorized by act of congress in 1928 became a major project of the experiment station in this region in 1930 and has since been steadily advanced under direction of H. J. Andrews, chief of the section. The cruising and mapping of Washington forests was finished a year ago, leaving the northeast corner of Oregon to be completed in 1936.

Technically trained timber estimators and mappers have now returned to Portland from the Blue mountains of Oregon with word that all field work of the survey has been accomplished.

WOMAN'S CLUB MEETS

The Bonneville Woman's club will hold its first meeting of the new year on Thursday, January 14, at two o'clock in the auditorium. Mrs. Raye Lee Harman of Portland will be the speaker and her subject, "Numerology," is expected to be very interesting.

The interior decorating class sponsored by the club met Thursday morning at 9:30 A.M. in the auditorium and will continue its weekly classes at that time. Miss Johnson instructor for the class, is well versed in her subject and has proved herself to be not only instructive, but very interesting. She gives practical instruction as well as the historical background. All women of the dam area are welcome.

River Will Stay Shut, Says Chief

Apparently a final answer to protests against closing of the Columbia river above Bonneville to boat traffic between January 15 and December 31, 1937, was given by Major-General E. M. Markham, chief of army engineers, who said in news dispatches Wednesday that the order "of necessity will have to remain in effect pending installation of the lock gates."

A group of men in The Dalles was instrumental in organizing a protest against closing of the river, lodging the complaint with Colonel Thomas Robins, division engineer. They held that the government had obligated itself by earlier declarations to keep the river open save during the month when the gates were actually installed, or to provide some means of passing cargoes around the dam.

"Closing of the river above the project is to be regretted if it inconveniences anyone," Markham said, "but there is no other way out if we are to install the gates at Bonneville."

Markham estimated the gate installation would be complete by November 1, 1937.

REBEKAHS INSTALL

The Rebekahs installed the following officers at their regular meeting Wednesday night: Mrs. M. L. Morgan, noble grand; Mrs. Maude Brolliar, vice grand; Frank Hall, secretary, and Miss Beth Manchester, treasurer.

LOCKS P.O. DOES BIG JOB

December, 1936, saw the heaviest mail ever handled by the Cascade Locks post office. This record included not only first class, but parcel delivery as well. Part of this gain was due to the new star route service originating here.

'New' Councilmen to Take Seats at Meeting Monday

By Seymour Funnibizness
(Political Writer for the Dam Chronicle)

Next Monday's city council meeting will find all the newly-elected officials in their seats—but there will be only one new face at the table, that of G. N. Heggard, Cascade Locks contractor, who takes the chair vacated by Julius Carlson.

Old-timers who return are Mayor G. E. Manchester, City Recorder W. J. Carlson, City Treasurer Mrs. Vera Sprague, and Councilmen Max Millsap, Silver Perras, Carl Epping, William Clark and James Merrill.

The past year has been an extremely hectic one for the councilmen and other city officers. Following approval by the PWA of bonds and grant for the \$56,000 water system (which cost, complete, better than \$60,000) members of the council started recall proceedings against Mayor Charles Nelson because of his refusal to sign warrants drawn against the water system construction fund. The mayor's friends likewise circulated recall petitions against Councilmen Millsap and Epping. The councilmen won out by a not too large majority at the special election.

The city was also defendant in an injunction suit to prevent their issuance of the bonds authorized by PWA, but the water system was installed and service begun before the state supreme court finally decided the case in favor of the city.

NOTED MUSICIANS COMING

Milt Taggart, famous dance band leader, will be presented this weekend at the Columbia Gardens in Cascade Locks.

On their way to a California engagement after six weeks at the Round-Up room in Spokane, where they were on the National Broadcasting system, the musicians' appearance will be a treat to everyone in this section of the gorge.

Taggart is the composer of "When It's Springtime in the Rockies" and recently completed 80 weeks on the Columbia network. His appearance in Cascade Locks is sponsored by Johnnie Walker, manager of Columbia Gardens.

Markham Asks 7 Million More For Bonneville

Nearly \$7,000,000 for new work at Bonneville can be spent profitably at Bonneville during the fiscal year 1937-38, which begins July 1, Major General E. M. Markham, head of army engineers, declared in a report to congress Tuesday.

As of last June 30 Markham said the powerhouse facilities were 66 per cent complete, navigation facilities 88 per cent, dam 49 per cent and fishways 35 per cent. Since then substantially more than half the remaining work has been done on the powerhouse (two units authorized), dam and fishways, although little further has been done on the locks.

The report covered the last fiscal year, and showed expenditures up to June 30 of \$26,120,357, including \$2,167,052 in regular rivers and harbors funds and \$23,953,305 in emergency funds, all of the latter being for new work.

Unexpended balances at the end of the last fiscal year totaled \$16,315,154, or \$8,492,874 in emergency funds and \$7,822,280 in regular funds.

(Continued on Page Sixteen)

Cold Halts Dam Work; 800 Odd Out

Bitter cold weather, ranging down within a few degrees of zero on some shifts, forced dam officials to order work stopped for all but a few special steel crews at 4 P.M. Wednesday.

The order will affect between 800 and 900 men temporarily, according to Columbia Construction company figures. Resumption of work will depend entirely on the weather.

A similar but briefer stoppage was ordered last week during the New Year's cold spell.

Together with the Christmas and New Year holidays, these breathing spells have caused some men to work but seven out of the past fourteen days. The percentage of idleness may run even higher if the present cold snap continues.

FIRE TOWER RAISED

The fire lookout who scans the lonely expanse of pine forest from Fraser Point between Burns and Prairie City, Oregon, next summer will do so from the dizzy level of a 100-foot wooden tower which is the pride of its recent CCC builders.

The tower represents the latest thing in wood construction using the split ring device recently found effective in increasing structural strength of wood.

Locks Chamber To Investigate Drydock Talk

At the regular Tuesday luncheon meeting of the Cascade Locks chamber of commerce attention of the members was directed to the very real possibility that the government may construct a dry dock where the present locks now stand. The cost of improvements would be low and the government would have a centrally located dock for the second district. The Port committee of the chamber was instructed to contact the government engineers and advise state and national legislators of the findings.

Should such a project be approved it would mean that Cascade Locks would be assured of a reasonably large payroll.

The citizens of this area are asked by the chamber to suggest slogans to be used in connection with Cascade Locks. The committee appointed by the president, Ira Owens, was Oscar Hyde, Al Meyers and Mrs. Juanita Lewallen, chairman. Such slogans as "Cascade Locks, on Cascade Lake"; "Cascade Locks, Center of the Columbia Gorge", and several others were mentioned at the meeting.

P.T.A. CHANGES PARTY DATE

The Bonneville P.T.A. card party which was scheduled for January 8 has been postponed one week due to bad weather conditions. It will be held on Friday, January 15.

Johnnie Baker, who built his home in Lakeview addition, has been transferred to another job. Mrs. Baker is visiting with her sister in Gresham until her husband gets settled in California.