

President Signs Bill Setting up Dam Authority

The path was cleared for the establishment of a temporary authority to operate Bonneville Dam, when President Roosevelt signed legislation Saturday designed to create a temporary governing system until such time as permanent authority is established for all Federal projects in the Columbia River basin.

The measure provides for a civilian administrator to be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. The War Department will supervise the dam, shiplocks, fishways, and power plant. Fifty percent of the power will be reserved for public bodies and co-operatives until 1941. It also provides for low uniform rates or rates uniform over prescribed transmission areas, and for a \$500,000 continuing fund for construction of transmission lines and initial operating expenses.

On Friday night the Bonneville administration bill was passed. The appropriation of \$100,000 was in danger of being lowered by Congress, but Oregon legislatures succeeded in putting through the entire amount. The sum authorizes funds to be spent for the following purposes:

"For administering and carrying out the provisions of the Bonneville Act, including necessary personal services in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; purchase of easements and right-of-way, purchase and exchange of automobiles; office furniture and equipment; stationery and office supplies, rent, travelling expenses, telegraph and telephone expenses, printing and binding and other necessary expenses."

Mt. Hood Lodge Operator Now Being Sought

Proposals from prospective operators of mile-high Mount Hood Timberline Lodge are being invited this week by the U. S. Forest Service through a pamphlet describing the lodge and terms of the operating permit. Applications from prospective concessionnaires are to be filed with the Mount Hood Development Association, George W. Joseph, attorney, Yeon Building, Portland, on or before September 20, the prospectus states. The Development Association will be the permittee of the forest service and will enter into contract with the concessionaire under terms satisfactory to itself and to the forest service. Terms of the permit indicate that the lodge, which will be capable of housing some 250 guests and furnish dining accommodations for approximately 200 at one time, will be in partial operation before January 1, 1938.

The permittee, according to the prospectus, will be entitled to 20 per cent of the net profits of the operation each year after deducting maintenance costs, operating expenses, depreciation and taxes on permittee's (or concessionaire's) investment, and interest at 4 per cent on the \$20,000 in bonds issued July 1, 1936, by the sponsors. An annual permit fee of \$1,000 will be charged by the government.

A Wisconsin man is dead at the age of 102. He was probably one of the very few men in the world who never heard of taxes.

Chronicle want-ads for results

Churches

BONNEVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Civic Auditorium

E. J. Aschenbrenner, Minister
Sunday, August 29:
10:00 A. M., Sunday School in charge of Samuel Lancaster.
11:00 A. M., Morning worship. Theme, "True Worshipers of God." It is expected that a group of about 40 public school teachers of Portland will be our guests at this service. A picnic lunch will be served in the club room of the Auditorium following the service. You are cordially invited.

Leaf Hung in Locks

This week the huge north leaf of the upstream gate of the locks was being put into its final position and connected to the hinging mechanism. This was accomplished by huge mechanical jacks that pushed the gates into position on nests of rollers. On the last leaf to be started, the north leaf of the downstream gate, about two-thirds of the sections have been moved into place.

Lake Basin Being Made

Forty-two men are at present engaged in slashing work on the Columbia River, preparing a basin for the lake to be formed by Bonneville Dam. For the past two years, the Government has been purchasing land on the river's edge in anticipation of the rising water. Spots being cleared were formerly the Oregon Lumber Company, Morton, and Dunlop properties. A fourth area under preparation is Mosier flat.

Dam Work Reviewed By C.I. Grimm

(The following is a report of progress on the construction of Bonneville Dam by Head Engineer C. I. Grimm of the U. S. Engineer's Office. It is reprinted from the last issue of the Commonwealth Review reporting on the Commonwealth Conference of March 18, 19, and 20.)

Those of us who are engaged in the building of the Bonneville Dam appreciate very much the interest shown in this project by the people of the region. That interest, I think, is manifested today by this conference and its attendance.

It has occurred to me that you may wonder why it takes four years to build Bonneville Dam. I am not here to make alibis for taking so long; but I can, I think, point out the necessity of taking a period of four years to construct the project. Usually there are two limitations: first, ability to secure the money; and second, the physical limitations. It took six years to build a relatively small \$3,000,000 dam on the Ohio River with which I was connected, because available funds were limited.

The Public Works Administration has appropriated money for Bonneville as rapidly as it could be used—in fact, faster. The first appropriation was \$20,000,000 and the mon-

ey was ahead of us; for the plans were not complete when the money was appropriated. We have now caught up with the available funds.

Although the primary purpose of the present status of the project and my appearance is to tell you about program for completion, it would not be amiss to deal briefly with the history of the project.

To my knowledge, the first proposal to build a dam at Bonneville was made in 1916. A plan appears in the state engineer's report for 1916. This plan was for a dam for navigation and power. In 1927 Congress authorized comprehensive surveys of the water resources of the principal drainage basins in the United States, which included the Columbia. As a result, a comprehensive plan for the development of the water resources of the Columbia River was proposed, which included a series of dams on the river; but in this report Bonneville was omitted. In 1932 there was a review of this report. Different engineering personnel came into the picture, eliminated the other dam in this

(Continued on Page Five)



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