

THE BONNEVILLE DAM CHRONICLE

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BONNEVILLE

CASCADE LOCKS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1939

First Power Line Ready For Bids

The first major construction job of the huge Bonneville power network was announced today by Administrator J. D. Ross. Bids for the erection of the "backbone" transmission line from the dam to the Vancouver substation will be called for within a few days.

Erection of the 374 tall steel towers and footings and the stringing of 219 miles of steel-reinforced aluminum cable will be done on a contract basis says Charles E. Carey, principal construction engineer. Bidders from all parts of the country are expected to compete.

Completion Due September 1

Completion of the first of the two lines on the 220,000-volt twin circuit will be required by September 1. The contractor must have the line ready for energizing on that date.

"Practically all conductors and insulators have been delivered by manufacturers and are on the ground," Carey commented. "Some of the tower steel has been delivered, tested and approved."

Contract Awarded Soon

"The contract will be awarded within a few weeks and work will (Continued on Page Six)

Rebekah Lodge Installs Officers

Members of Cascadia Rebekah lodge held their installation last Wednesday night. Mrs. Ivan Embree taking the office of Noble Grand; Mrs. Roy Weeman, Vice-Grand; Mrs. Clarence Carnes, Warden; Mrs. George Haggblom, Conductor; Miss Martha Wetzel, Chaplain; Mrs. Ernie Manchester, Past Noble Grand; Mrs. Lester Sprague, Right Supporter; Mrs. Lee Murray, Left Supporter; Mrs. Joe Miller, Right Supporter to Vice-Grand; Mrs. Melvin Herrington, Left Supporter to Vice-Grand; Clara Nix, Inside Guardian; Mrs. Erwin Brulliar, Outside Guardian. The lodge finished one of its most successful years in number of new members added to their rolls, eight having joined and one member transferring here. Mrs. Clara Mason and Mrs. Grace Hendricks were visitors from Stevenson.

WPA CAMP NEARING COMPLETION

The WPA camp being built where the old Orino camp was located near the Bonneville school is slowly nearing completion. Two or three of the bunkhouses will be ready for occupancy this coming week but the cook shack will not be ready for use for several weeks.

The camp is in charge of Edward Paulson, Bonneville Project Engineer for the WPA, and Lee Murray, for the Department of Interior. Around 200 men will be located in this camp with 22 located in each bunkhouse. These men will do the clearing for the Bonneville transmission line from the dam to Hood River.

Mr. Paulson was guest of honor at the Cascade Locks Chamber of Commerce meeting last Tuesday and stated that this will be the hardest WPA job in the state and that only the most experienced men in the falling and handling of timber will be hired. The crews will be under the supervision of two of the best known woods bosses of the west. He would not venture to guess as to just how long the job would take but he did

REED COLLEGE NIGHT

On Wednesday, January 18, the Reed College athletes and card players are scheduled to renew their three-year old rivalry with the Bonneville Engineers in the fourth annual varied sports program. Bonneville won the first two events of this series, and tied with the collegians last year. Only four events are scheduled this year, due to the fact that Bonneville has no basketball team. They are:

Badminton—4:30 to 7:00 p. m.
Volleyball—women's, 7:30 p. m. Men's, 8:30 p. m.
Bridge—Time to be announced.
Handball—5:00 to 9:00 p. m.

Eugene Speeds Work on Contract

EUGENE — With word from Bonneville that the government's transmission line to Eugene would be completed by fall of 1939, Eugene water board officials Tuesday speeded their program for completing contractual agreements with Bonneville for use of power for peak purposes.

Superintendent J. W. McArthur said a "satisfactory conclusion" was about to be reached in regard to rates for power Eugene takes from Bonneville. The rate schedule has not been completed and no data on this matter were released. The water board set a special meeting next Monday night when it is expected negotiations will be completed.

Present Bonneville plans call for construction of a substation for the Bonneville power line about a mile and a quarter north of the overhead crossing on the Oregon Electric right-of-way. From there a rate agreement would send power directly over a two-mile route to a city substation.

The Eugene substation will be constructed in any event, McArthur said, and will receive power through substation A from the McKenzie plant. The new station will be station E.

Bonneville Forms Legion Auxiliary

At a record-breaking crowded American Legion Meeting last Tuesday night Mrs. Mae Whitcomb, State Secretary of the Legion Auxiliary, proposed and got underway a Legion Auxiliary Unit for the Bonneville Post.

Forty-three legionnaires, wives and visitors from Hood River were present at the open meeting which started the new organization on its way. Mrs. Fred Morton was appointed temporary chairman, with 16 members registered for the new unit. At the next meeting on Tuesday, January 24, all interested and eligible auxiliary members are urged to be present for the first regular meeting. At this time the charter will be awarded and the election of permanent officers will take place.

NO CONSTRUCTION AS YET

Difficulties seem to have arisen on the construction of the new powerhouse. The Hoffman Construction Company, who secured the bid, have as yet not put in their appearance on the job.

It is not definite just what the trouble is but there is some tie-up.

The last of the stoplogs arrived this week for the units 3, 4, 5, and 6 and are being put in place by the engineers so that everything is ready for Hoffman to start.

say that it was going over some of the roughest country in the United States.

Power Agent Eulogized by Time Magazine

Of interest to Bonneville Dam area residents and particularly those of Cascade Locks is the following clipping from the January 9 issue of the magazine "Time" concerning Guy C. Myers of New York City.

Mr. Myers in addition to handling the Nebraska deal which the article tells about is the fiscal agent for Cascade Locks and not so very long ago appeared before a public meeting at the high school to explain the financing of the city buying out the West Coast Power Company. He placed the audience at ease and on his side when, with good fellowship and humor, not expected from a Wall Street banker, he sat on the edge of the speaker's table after being introduced and stated to the amazed audience: "Look me over, I am one of the wolves of Wall Street."

"Time," in its section under Business, carried a picture of Myers and the following article:

"One young man who believes in Horace Greeley's famed maxim is holding Banker Guy C. Myers of No. 35 Wall Street. For several years Mr. Myers has been going West with profit. Last week he turned a neat profit in Nebraska.

"A seasoned promoter who helped put together Montana Power Co., Manker Myers was discovered by James Delmage Ross when that alert public utilitarian was trying to raise money for the municipal system he managed in Seattle. After Mr. Ross was turned down by PWA and cold-shouldered by bigtime financiers, Mr. Myers raised \$22,500,000 for him. When Mr. Ross went on to SEC, and Los Angeles started looking around for \$47,000,000 for a municipal utility system, he put Mr. Myers in the way of that job. Few months before leaving SEC to administer Washington's Bonneville Project, Mr. Ross heard of the tribulations of Nebraska's "little TVA" and recommended Mr. Myers.

"Nebraska's 'little TVA,' a combination of three hydroelectric projects financed by \$60,000,000 of PWA funds, encountered, besides charges of bad engineering, much the same sort of opposition as big TVA—suits, injunctions, bitter antagonism from already established power companies. As in the case of big TVA it finally boiled down to how the PWA "hydros" could (Continued on Page 6)

BIG FUND REPORTED

Dispatches from Washington, D. C., in the Portland papers last Saturday told of the allocating of \$15,000 of WPA funds for street improvements in Cascade Locks. So far there has been no official notification of this award.

SCOUTS HAVE OUTING

Six Boy Scouts under the leadership of Scoutmaster Jack Cornett of Troop 390, Cascade Locks, spent Saturday on a trip up Ruckel Creek.

POT-LUCK SUPPER AT CASCADE CHURCH

Friday night of this week there will be another of the famous pot-luck suppers at the Interdenominational Church at Cascade Locks. Members of the Chamber of Commerce, City Council and all others interested are invited. The hour is set at 6:30 p. m. Come and have a good time and give your views on the interdenominational plan which is now being tried out at Bonneville and Cascade Locks.

LAKE BONNEVILLE TO BE DROPPED TO LOWER LEVEL

Beginning on Sunday morning, January 15, 1939, water elevation of the pool above Bonneville Dam will be gradually lowered approximately 5 feet from the present elevation of 69.6 feet. Attempt will be made to so regulate the spillway gates that the lower elevation will be reached about Wednesday noon, January 18, 1939, according to information received in Hood River from Major Theron D. Weaver, of the Army Engineers.

It is expected that the pool will remain at this lower elevation for a period of about five weeks. Later notice will be issued as soon as definite date for raising the pool is known.

Land Secured for Backbone Line

With the deposit of a check for \$122,517.70 in the United States district court at Tacoma Thursday, way was cleared for final action in construction of the "backbone" transmission line from Bonneville dam to the substation at Vancouver, Wash., Administrator J. D. Ross announced today.

The check covers payments for the line's right-of-way between Vancouver and the Clark-Skamania county line. It was deposited with the court as the initial step in a condemnation suit for acquisition of property in Clark County, across which the line survey passes.

An order granted by Federal Judge Edward E. Cushman gave the Bonneville Project the right to immediate possession of the property so that line construction may start without delay. However, residents of dwellings along the route will be permitted to occupy their (Continued on Page Five)

McNARY PRESENTS LOCKS BILL

Senator McNary on the first day of Congress offered the bill he had presented last year for the Port of Cascade Locks, in which he asked that the old lock grounds at Cascade Locks be transferred to the Port of Cascade Locks from the War Department. He also introduced a bill asking for the construction of Umatilla Dam. Representative Pierce introduced the same bill in the house.

New Representative Homer D. Angell introduced a bill to authorize the mint to issue 50,000 fifty-cent pieces of special design to commemorate completion of Bonneville Dam.

Public Utility Measure Now Revised

The revised draft of the proposed PUD measure for utilization of Bonneville power was completed Saturday by attorneys for the Bonneville Federation of Oregon on the eve of the opening session of the Oregon legislature Monday. It was released by M. H. McGuire, McMinnville municipal power executive and president of the federation.

Approved by J. W. McArthur, veteran manager of Eugene's municipal power department, the proposed law would replace the Oregon PUD law of 1931-'33-'37, which public power proponents now charge is an effective bar to PUD organization in the state.

Containing, it is claimed, the best provisions of all existing PUD laws in the country, which were analyzed for the federation by John C. Fischer, chief counsel for the Bonneville federation, the proposed act, originally drafted by Attorney H. F. McInturff of Portland, has the approval of Bonneville Administrator J. D. Ross, Ray Gill, State Grange master, and other public power advocates of the state.

The revised act provides for:

1. Issuance of utility revenue bonds, payable solely out of reve-

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BILL FOR CHLORATE PLANT LISTED

Bill Number 196 offered on the first day of Congress was that bill which Oregon's Representative, Walter M. Pierce, stated some time ago that he was going to introduce. The bill calls for the government to construct a plant near the Bonneville Dam for the manufacture of alkali chlorates for the eradication of weeds.

The bill, as printed in the Congressional record, is as follows:

"A bill to provide for the general welfare by conserving and protecting the agricultural resources of the United States control and eradication of noxious weeds; to empower the secretary of agriculture to construct and operate an electro-chemical plant for the manufacture of alkali chlorates and to distribute these herbicides at cost to states carrying out programs for the control and eradication of noxious weeds."

The bill was referred to the committee on agriculture.

Major Power Program Goes To This Session of Congress

A fourteen million dollar construction program for 1940 to market power from Bonneville Dam was recommended to Congress today by the Bureau of the Budget. In addition to any congressional appropriation that may be granted, Administrator J. D. Ross stated, there will be a balance of approximately a million and a half dollars of Public Works Administration funds to be expended for transmission line erection during the next fiscal year.

Widespread Transmission Planned

The proposed budget would provide high-tension lines to serve districts throughout Oregon and Washington. Feeder lines of lower voltages and additional substation equipment would bring the low-cost energy from Bonneville Dam to nearly every community within economic transmission distance. Included in the contem-

plated budget is initial work on a second 220,000 volt line from Bonneville Dam to Grand Coulee and erection of a warehouse adjacent to the major substation at Vancouver.

The largest single item in the budget submitted to Congress is \$5,277,000 provided for new transmission facilities. Erection of a series of 110,000-volt circuits is proposed to serve Pendleton, Umatilla, Portland, and Astoria in Oregon; Pasco, Ellensburg and Yakima in Washington. The most expensive 110,000-volt line would be the one to Astoria, at an estimated cost of \$1,683,000.

To deliver power to a large portion of Eastern Washington, the budget provides for a 200-mile line that would pass through Franklin, Benton, and adjacent counties, and would inter-connect with two major (Continued on Page Six)