

## Construction Work In June Sets Nation's Top Figure

NEW YORK — Construction contracts in the United States in June totaled more than 3.8 billion dollars, by far the highest figure

ever reported for any single month, according to F. W. Dodge Corporation.

The June contracts were 12 per cent above the previous high record which had been established only a month earlier, in May, and they were 18 per cent higher than in June of last year.

The June figure was pushed upward by large increases in public utility, public works and residential contracts.

According to Dodge vice president and economist Dr. George Cline Smith, the gains were general through all types of construction, with only a few exceptions.

"When signs of an upturn in construction contracts first appeared in April," Dr. Smith stated, "we reported that the recovery seemed to have a broad, solid base. This fact has been more than confirmed in May and June, with the dollar figures exceeding all expectations."

"A number of very large utility contracts, particularly in connection with the St. Lawrence project, helped boost the June total," he said, "but the most encouraging feature was perhaps the big increase in housing activity across the nation."

The effect of government programs was particularly noticeable in June, since public ownership contracts were 30 per cent ahead of the same month of last year. Nevertheless, privately owned projects also rose by a substantial 11 per cent. Regardless of ownership, the net effect of this upsurge

in the nation's largest industry is bound to be a big boost to the rest of the economy, which will be felt for many months to come as work proceeds on the projects now under contract," added Dr. Smith.

Contracts for residential buildings in June were valued at \$1,364,231,000, a gain of 29 per cent over a year ago. Contracts for large residential buildings showed the largest percentage increase—69 per cent. However, one and two-family houses, the bulk of the residential category, also rose sharply, 17 per cent ahead of last year.

The number of dwelling units represented by the June contracts tallied 107,914, up 24 per cent from June 1957.

Heavy engineering contracts in June amounted to \$1,479,307,000, a gain of 64 per cent over the same month last year. Public works contracts were up 22 per cent and utilities contracts were 225 per cent higher than a year ago. Street and highway contracts in June rose 45

per cent above the year-earlier level. Contracts for electric light and power systems were up 479 per cent. Pipelines also registered substantial gains.

Non-residential building contracts in June amounted to \$976,044,000, down 18 per cent from the same month last year. Within this category, sharp declines were registered for manufacturing buildings—down 67 per cent—and commercial buildings—down 27

per cent—while educational building contracts dropped 3 per cent below a year ago. Public buildings, religious buildings, hospitals, and recreational buildings all showed

gains over the comparable year-earlier levels.

The cumulative total of contracts for future construction in the first six months of 1958 amounted to

\$16,788,825,000, down one per cent from the comparable 1957 period. The cumulative total of contracts by the major construction categories showed: residential at \$6,504,

707,000, up one per cent; heavy engineering at \$4,776,056,000, up 6 per cent; and non-residential at \$5,507,862,000, down 8 per cent.

## Lake County Youths Feted

LAKEVIEW — Four Lake County boys have been selected for scholarships to the Youth Range Camp from August 4 through August 8 at the Dairy Creek Guard Station, reported C. J. Windle, Fremont Forest range management officer, who is chairman of the selection committee.

Don Hill of the Westside will represent the Future Farmers of America on a scholarship from the Fremont Sheepmen's Association; Pat Palmer of Paisley, the 4-H Clubs on an Elks Lodge scholarship; James Clinton and Paul McCormick of Lakeview, both selected on a scholarship basis and sponsored by the First National Bank of Portland and the Lakeview Rotary Club respectively.

E. R. Jackman, range management specialist from Oregon State College, will be in charge of the camp, and Dr. Elbert N. Steward, botanist from the college, will work with the boys on range plant identification. Ned Sherlock, Lake County stockman, will talk on and show practical range management on his range in that area. A half day will also be spent with staff members showing the work being done by the Forest Service in the area. There will be training in fishing techniques, photography, hunting, and outdoor living.

From 50 to 60 boys will be present at the camp, representing counties in Oregon where range resources are of importance.

A cook has been hired and well-prepared meals are planned for the session with the first one to be served at 6 p.m., August 4. The boys will sleep outside and have been advised to bring along some sort of waterproof protection for their beds.

## Phone Directory Delivery Starts

YREKA — Deliveries of the August, 1958, edition of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph directories were started on Monday, July 28, throughout Siskiyou, Shasta and Trinity counties.

Floyd M. Dill, Yreka-Dunsmuir manager of the company, reported more than 25,000 copies of the book will be issued replacing the one issued last November.

Sixteen more pages are contained in the new edition compared to the 1957-58 directory, making a total of 280 pages with 18, 146 alphabetical listings, denoting an increase of 241.



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