

WORKERS AT DAM TO RECEIVE PAY INCREASES, SAID

Bureau of reclamation workers on Boulder Dam will receive substantial increases in wages as of December 15, 1941, according to a wire from Senator Berkeley L. Bunker this afternoon.

The department of labor, the senator advises, has approved recommendations of the secretary of interior for adoption of the "prevailing wage" based on the scale paid by McNeil Construction company on the Basic Magnesium job.

Detailed rates of increase were not available today, but it was understood the boost will be as much as 67 cents an hour in the skilled labor class and as much as 100 per cent for some of those in the unskilled classifications.

Skilled workers, now receiving \$1.20 an hour will be advanced to meet the McNeil scale, and in some instances will receive as much as \$1.87 an hour.

In the unskilled group, the present rate runs from \$5.00 a day to \$6.40. Under the increase, it will range from \$6.40 to \$10.00 depending on classification.

The negotiations were based on a starting time, December 15, 1941. The new wage scale will be effective as of that date so far as the regular hourly wage is concerned, but the question of back-pay on overtime earned during the intervening period hinges on an interpretation of the term "retroactive" as applied to this job.

It is possible the workers will receive back-pay for the regular shifts put in but none for the overtime, it is understood.

The bureau of reclamation officials at Boulder City have not yet been notified of the approval of the new wage scale, and were unable to give out any information on the matter, they stated this afternoon.