

Boulder Dam History

Year—1934

By FLORENCE LEE JONES

The millionth yard of concrete was poured into the Boulder Dam January 7, 1934, marking a point in progress nearing the one-third point toward completion.

The artificial cooling system being used at the dam to cool the concrete as it was poured into the forms was hailed by the bureau of reclamation as the "greatest innovation of the big project," according to an article in the Review-Journal of January 18, 1934.

In observance of the birthday of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a ball was held in Boulder City on January 30. Proceeds were to go to "the hospital for crippled children at Warm Springs, Georgia," and to the local milk fund of the Boulder schools. In a friendly contest with Las Vegas, Boulder City raised \$930, while Las Vegas took in \$400.

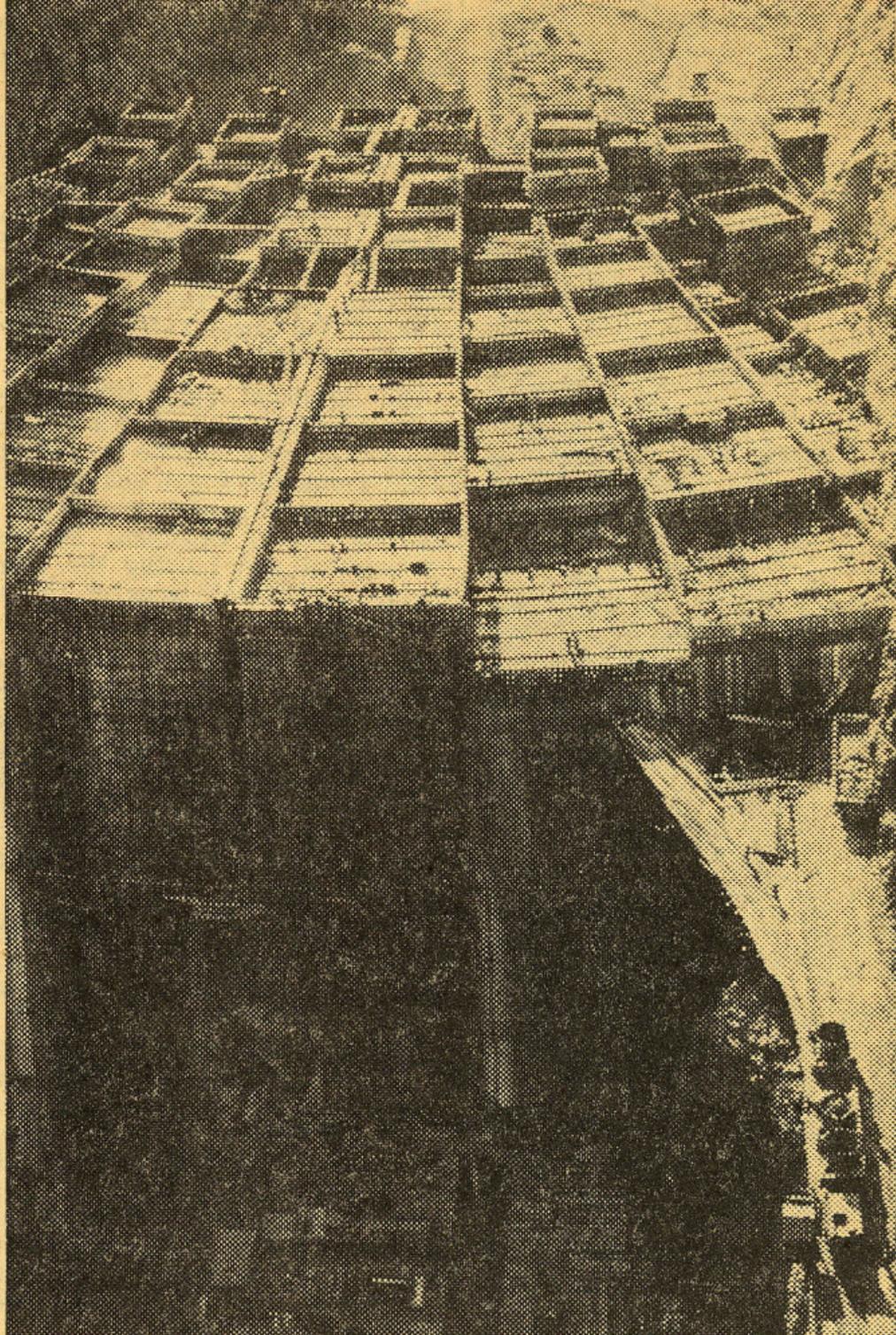
On February 13, 1934, the Review-Journal announced that Father John J. Lambe had arrived in Boulder City to become pastor of St. Andrew's Catholic Church, after having served in Elko for eight years.

There were 4,530 persons employed by the various contracting firms and the bureau of reclamation on the Boulder Dam project on February 20, 1934.

While the first bucket load of cement had been placed in the dam on June 6, 1933, it had reached the half-way point by April 9, 1934. At that time the 1,610,000th cubic yard of concrete was poured.

Six Companies, Inc., announced on November 3, 1934, that the lo-mix concrete plant had poured its last bucket-full of concrete and had been shut down, preparatory to being dismantled. The railroad leading to the plant also was to be discontinued.

The three millionth yard of concrete was poured at Boulder Dam on December 5, 1934, marking progress in the project, then 92 per cent complete. The work then was two and one-half years ahead of schedule. The original contract called for cement pouring to start December 1, 1934, and four days after that date, the dam was with-in less than 10 per cent of completion.



GOING UP — Boulder Dam looked like a gigantic honeycomb as it rose from the bed of the Colorado River to a maximum height of 727 feet. Concrete was poured in the forms shown at top, alternating from the base up, so that it is earthquake proof and can stand the tremendous pressure of Lake Mead.