

# SIX COMPANIES WINS CONTRACT ON PARKER DAM

## Boulder Dam Contractors Are Low on Bid for New Project

LOS ANGELES, July 26. (U.P.)—Six Companies Incorporated, Boulder Dam builders, were the low bidders on the Parker dam, to be erected primarily as a diversion dam for Los Angeles aqueduct now being constructed to carry Colorado river water into the southern California metropolitan area.

Six Companies submitted a bid of \$4,239,834. The only other bid was that of the Southwestern Contracting Group Inc., headed by H. Stanley Bent of Los Angeles. This concern offered to construct the dam for \$5,497,073.

THE BIDS were opened by Olaf Laurgaard, construction engineer for the bureau of reclamation service.

Although the bids had been called for on two separate units, both contractors stipulated that they would not accept the award unless it covered both contracts.

Two companies entered bids on the tunnel work only, but they were rejected because they did not include actual dam construction. They were from the West Construction Company which bid \$887,910 and the S. S. McGaffin Company with a bid of \$948,177.

ACCORDING TO A. H. Ayers, chief engineer for Six Companies, the dam is to be erected near the town of Parker, Arizona, and will be largely a diversion dam al-

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though there will be 400,000 acre feet of storage behind it most of the time.

It may also be used to divert some of Arizona's share of Colorado river waters onto Indian lands lying in that state below Parker.

**THE DAM** will be 320 feet high, 95 feet thick at the bottom and 800 feet along the crest from shore to shore.

It is an arch dam, and will contain 260,000 cubic yards of concrete.

The construction plans call for boring two diversion tunnels, 29 feet in diameter, on the Arizona side of the river, and the stream will be carried thru these during the pouring of concrete in the dam structure itself. The tunnels will be lined with concrete and will be similar in construction to the 50 foot Boulder Dam diversion tunnels.

**SIX COMPANIES** is prepared to start work as soon as the contract is awarded, Ayers says. The work will get under way slowly, however, the first year being devoted to highway construction and completion of the diversion tunnels.

The construction program covers a period of three and a half years, Ayers says, and it will be impossible to proceed much faster than that.

**IT IS ESTIMATED** that between 300 and 350 men will be employed at the peak.

Conditions at the dam site are somewhat more severe than on the Boulder dam, Ayers states, this new project being located in what is described as being the hottest spot in the United States.

The nearest town to the dam site is Earp, California, a station on the Santa Fe railroad 14 miles away.