

Contractors Moving Rapidly to Start Work On Parker Dam

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Frank T. Crowe, general superintendent of the Six Companies, Inc., has taken charge of construction operations on the Praker dam which will divert water from the Colorado river into the aqueduct of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. As superintendent in charge of construction of Boulder dam for the Six Companies, Inc., Mr. Crowe has made a record which gives assurance that construction operations on the Parker dam will be conducted most expeditiously and successfully. Because of the great depth of excavation necessary to secure a firm foundation, 270 ft., this project takes rank as a major construction operation. Excavation, which will require the removal of 1,500,000 cu. yds. of material, will not be started until the fall of 1935, after the river has been diverted from the main channel.

Work is about to be started on a permanent construction camp to be known as Whipple, close to the banks of the Colorado river near the point where the intake of the aqueduct will be located. This will be the base of operations for Parker dam activities. A contract has been awarded to P. S. Webb, of Boulder City, for the construction of the permanent and principal camp buildings. These include two dormitories for the housing of 258 men, with provisions for extensions to accommodate 76 additional men; an office and

dormitory building which will house 15 men and provide office space for the contractors' staff; store building and mess hall to seat 232 men and provide club room facilities for the workmen and their families in the camp; a hospital building; a four-room school building; and twenty two-room family residences.

The buildings are scheduled to be completed within sixty days. Construction forces for Six Companies are starting work on the streets, lighting and sewer facilities for their portion of the town of Whipple. The water supply will come from a well located near the river.

Superintendent Crowe announced that work will be started immediately on the construction of a pile trestle bridge across the Colorado River and located just below the site of the lower cofferdam, one of the two cofferdams to be built as a part of the job of building the dam structure itself. Crowe explained that this bridge will give access to the lower portals of the two tunnels that are to be driven to divert the flow of the Colorado River around Parker Dam site during the construction period.

"A subcontract has been let to the J. F. Shea Company, Inc., for the construction of the diversion tunnels and a highway connecting with the Metropolitan Water District road system and giving access to the river at stream level," Mr. Crowe stated. "Work on this subcontract will begin within thirty days, and will be completed by July 1, 1935.