

VALUE OF DAM POWER OUTLINED TO SOLONS AS DAM BILL SIFTED

2-27-35
Publicly Owned Power
Lines to Develop Low-
Grade Ore Urged

POSSIBILITIES GREAT

Mineral Refining Expect-
ed to Be Basis of Big
Development

CARSON CITY, Feb. 27. (U.P.)
—A great industrial empire in
the southeastern portion of the
state of Nevada, with Las Vegas
as the hub, and extending into
the mining districts of Tonopah,
Ely, Pioche and even farther
north, was pictured today as the
state planning board discussed
the possibilities of cheap power
and the legislators started work
on legislation to guarantee that
the benefits shall be assumed by
the state.

Plans for constructing publicly-
owned transmission lines that will
aid in developing low-grade ore
mining areas, agricultural dis-
tricts, and guarantee full returns
to the state from the sale of pow-
er and water were being consider-
ed by legislators following a joint
session in which members of the
state planning board explained the
advantages expected from the Col-
orado river project.

"NEVADA IS blessed with more
different kinds of industrial min-
erals and chemicals than any oth-
er area in the union," said John
Fulton, director of the Mackay
School of Mines. "These exist in
commercial quantities. With pow-
er from Boulder dam being fur-
nished at approximately one-half
the cost of power from Niagara
Falls, a vast industry for the re-
fining of minerals can be built
up."

Possibilities in the state of Ne-
vada are inconceivable from a
mineralogical standpoint, he con-
tinued, if cheap power is furnish-
ed. Metals refined by an electro-
lytic process, he claimed, are much
purer than those processed by oth-
er means.

"Not only will Nevada's huge
mineral resources be developed,"
he stated, "but the use of low-cost
power will act as a magnet for
mineral ore from the entire west-
ern mining region to be refined in
the vicinity of Boulder dam."

The lower production costs made
possible through use of cheap elec-
tricity, the climate of the region
permitting year-round work, the
abundance of water, and the loca-
tion close to the exporting harbor
of Los Angeles, he declared, made
southern Nevada an ideal loca-
tion for "the greatest industrial
center west of the Mississippi."

THE LOCATION of the Pioche
district demands the development

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Value Of

(Continued from page one)

of the ore bodies in that region to start with, Fulton added, but if cheap power can be sent to Ely, Elko, and Eureka areas, development of similar rich mineral areas would be possible.

In listing products possible from electrical mining refinery methods Fulton mention as the most important the carbides, especially calcium carbide. He also promised other electro-chemical products, including various metal alloys, made possible through use of the electric furnace.

How Boulder dam power is expected to result in development of the Pioche area, with a doubling of population in the entire state as the eventual result, was outlined by J. H. Bueller, mining engineer and members of the planning board.

MINERAL ORE deposits of suitable grade for profitable development with use of cheap power have been blocked in the Pioche district to a total of 20,000,000 tons, with new ore being blocked at the rate of 100,000 tons a day. An estimate of 100,000,000 tons as capable of development in that area was made by Bueller.

"Cheaper power from the dam will bring refineries for the crude ore mined in the nearby district," he explained. "And when the re-

fineries are established, it will not be possible to keep out the fabrication plants. We couldn't stop this industrial center in southern Nevada unless we took away the offer of low-priced power."

BESIDES INCREASED mineral and industrial activity, Bueller pointed out, the state will benefit from increased taxable wealth, lower tax rates, and increased population.

"When the development of the Pioche area reaches its maximum with the production of 6500 tons of ore a day," he figured, "the investment in the area will reach \$17,000,000, which will mean tax revenue to the state of \$220,000 and to the county of \$276,000 each year."

OTHER PARTS of the state will benefit from this tax revenue to the state, he believed.

"To put through the Pioche district program," he estimated, "2000 men will have to be employed directly, with an annual payroll of \$5 a day or \$3,650,000 a year."

An additional direct service population of 5000 and workmen dependent on the mining industry indirectly will raise population figures of the state from 20,000 to 30,000 persons, he said. Fifty-seven per cent of Nevada's inhabitants at present are dependent on mining.

"THIS PROJECT will relieve the unemployment situation in this

state for many years to come," he added.

Since its first settlement, he reviewed, Nevada has been exporting its wealth to other states because of lack of facilities to develop and refine its raw materials. Boulder dam power will correct the situation, he asserted, and make it possible not only for Nevada to retain its wealth but actually to import it.

Robert A. Allen, chairman of the board, presided at the joint legislative session.

A **10-YEAR** development program is being outlined by the board, Allen said. He asked the lawmakers to study the best ways of constructing transmission lines and to retain control of water and power rights in the best interests of the state.

Assemblyman Clair Stewart, Lincoln, sponsored the joint session.