

Seismograph Being Installed At Bureau of Reclamation In B. C.

A seismograph to record earthquake shocks in the Boulder dam area is being installed at the present time at the bureau of reclamation's administration building, Tom C. Mead, son of the late Dr. Elwood Mead who was reclamation commissioner for the bureau for many years, stated today.

The instrument is of the single component Wood-Anderson type, Mead, who is an associate engineer here, said this morning. It is to be installed in the administration building basement and will be ready for operation during the latter part of February. Mead said that the seismograph will have two faces, north and south, and will record shocks within a distance of 100 miles in those two directions. The instrument will run continuously, having a small electric motor which

operates a spool which, in turn, records disturbances by recording them on a photographic paper. The vital part of the device is like a pendulum, which swings of its own momentum when disturbed.

Mead said this morning that two accelerographs, machines similar to a seismograph, have been installed at the dam area. One was placed in the center of Boulder dam, immediately below the roadway, another in the downstream Nevada intake tower, and the third in the city of Los Angeles switch yard. These instruments record only heavy shocks, in a degree just below the point of destruction and, of course, he said, a destructive while the new machine will record even slight shocks.

The new seismograph will be installed from the coast geodetic survey.