

DAM TOURIST TRAVEL NECESSITATES EXTRA BUILDINGS, JOHN PAGE SAYS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26. (UP) —John C. Page, commissioner of reclamation for the bureau of reclamation, announced today that "the bureau of reclamation welcomes the public at Boulder dam, and thru the addition of facilities at the structure hopes to meet the responsibilities the public has placed upon us by its attention to the dam."

Page made his statement in refutation of newspaper articles which had given out the information the dam was closed to the public, and expanded his an-

nouncement by saying: "Visitors not only will be welcome, but we expect to have available for them additional facilities represented by a new exhibit building, which is expected to be done by July, 1940."

Page called attention to the new regulations at the dam which, he said, simply provide for definite visiting hours for the convenience of the guide force, the prevention of irregular entry to the structure and which will prevent private boats from entering that portion of Black canyon immediately above the dam.

In explaining the construction of the new exhibit building, Page said:

"The building, which will probably be ready for use by next July, will contain rest rooms, a room for use by the guides stationed at the dam, and a hall to contain a model of the Boulder canyon. It will be situated on the Nevada side of the Colorado river near the abutment of the dam against the precipitous wall of Black canyon. The building will be air conditioned for the comfort of the many thousands who visit the dam during the summer months.

"Regular tours through Boulder dam are conducted by the bureau of reclamation and the exhibit house will be an added feature of the tour. The model will show the relationship of Boulder dam to other features of the development of the Colorado river, such as Parker dam, the Colorado river aqueduct, Imperial dam, and the all-American canal. The operations of this system of works also will be illustrated by the model. Power lines and rods will be shown.

"Since the completion of Boulder dam in 1935 the number of visitors at the structure has increased from about 300,000 the first year to a maximum of 600,000."