

GIANT BARRIER ON COLORADO IS ABOUT ONE THIRD COMPLETED NOW

Movie Cameras Grind Out
Pictures Commemorating
Event

AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

"We'll Pour on Top by
Next New Year's Day"
Say Workmen on Job

By A. E. CAHLAN

Yesterday, down on top of the Boulder dam, the millionth yard of concrete was poured (or placed as the engineers insist is proper), on the great structure.

Of course, in physical characteristics, it wasn't any different from any other batch of material, except for the painted sign that hung from the side of the big bucket, identifying it for the benefit of Fox and Pathe sound news cameras recording the event.

IT WAS the same mixture of sand, gravel and cement as the 999,990 yard or the 500,000th. There was the same crew there to handle the big bucket that had officiated at hundreds of previous pours since the first batch of concrete was dropped into the canyon last June 6. It was the same old routine that had been performed thousands of times previously and will be performed many thousand more.

But to officials of the bureau of reclamation and Six Companies Incorporated, it was a milestone in the construction program, and they gathered on top of the dam to commemorate the event.

THERE WERE Walker R. Young, construction engineer for the bureau of reclamation, and his chief assistant, John C. Page, office engineer. City Manager Sims Ely and Chief of Police W. H. Trimble represented the Boulder City contingent, while Mrs. Page and Mrs. Trimble completed the government party.

Felix Kahn, treasurer of Six Companies and Charles A. Shea, director in charge of construction, represented the board of directors, while Mrs. Kahn, charming wife of the treasurer and one of California's best known social workers, braved cable-way elevators, and scaffold walks to mount to the top of the structure and watch the pour.

Frank Crowe, head of Six Companies construction forces down on

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Giant Barrier

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the job, and Woody Williams, his chief assistant in charge of canyon operations, were on deck to participate.

SHORTLY AFTER the appointed hour of 1:30, the big bucket, bearing the identifying sign, swung over on the cableway to the section being poured, where a group of concrete workers under the direction of J. C. Armitage, former University of Idaho football star, took charge. The bucket rested on the concrete for a few moment while Young, Page, Shea, Kahn, Crowe and Williams posed for pictures and then with a big "slosh" the millionth yard dropped into the forms, and the crew pitched in energetically with shovels, vibrators and other necessary tools

to show the world, thru the news cameras, just how it's done on the Boulder dam.

Everybody appeared to get a big thrill out of the performance, that is all with the exception of Woody Williams who couldn't see what all the fuss was about, and was anxious to get it over with and get the big buckets moving rhythmically back and forth on schedule.

TO THE GATHERED directors and reclamation bureau engineers, however, it was one of the big events of the construction. It means to them that the great structure had been almost one-third completed in one day more than seven months, and that the huge gamble they took when they originally banded together to bid the project, had been reduced almost to the status of a gilt-edged investment.

Eighty per cent of the hazards involved in the construction have been overcome, one of the executives pointed out, and most of the main worries that keep the bosses awake nights are passed. From now on it's simply a case of pouring concrete with the greatest possible speed consistent with the safeguards laid down by reclamation bureau engineers. There are those down on the job, intimately

connected with its construction, who'll tell you: "we'll be pouring concrete on top by next New Year's Day," but the more conservative guess "sometime in February."

THE FACT of the matter is the dam itself will be finished so far ahead of all expectations, and the system worked out by the construction forces has functioned so successfully, that the New Year's date is not so far out of reason at that. The dam has been raised from the 505 foot level where the first pour was made last June, to approximately the 730 level. Some of the sections are above this point while others are still below. This means that the structure has been raised 230 feet from its foundation, and has 500 feet yet to go. The dam narrows as it goes up, however, the base being 650 feet thick, and the top but 43 feet.

Six Companies directors were so pleased with the showing made by the construction forces, they took Charles A. Shea, director in charge of construction completely by surprise Saturday, and presented him with a shiny new Cadillac sedan, which tickled the popular executive, "more than almost anything that ever happened in my life."

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