

4000 TO GET BOULDER JOBS IN 60 DAYS

Seven Years of Work on Dam
Project Is Estimated by
Officials

BID CONFIRMATION NEAR
San Francisco Will Be Head-
quarters for Huge
Task

With San Francisco to be construction headquarters for the huge engineering project at Boulder dam an employment office will be opened locally within 60 days, it was announced today.

Estimates are that the project will give employment to between 3500 and 4000 men for from six to seven years.

Officials of the Six Companies Inc., local syndicate that submitted the low bid for construction of "tunnels, dam, powerhouse and all appurtenant works" of the project indicated they hoped to start the "heavy work" by the first week in May.

Preliminary work was expected to get under way within six weeks.

Advices from Washington were that the low bid would be confirmed within 10 days and that actual preparations for construction could be started immediately afterward.

The water tunnels, two on each side of the site of the dam, will divert the Colorado river, so that the construction work will proceed on the dry bed of the river.

Firms in Combine

Incorporated as the Six Companies, Inc., the syndicate that submitted the low bid is made up of the following widely known western concerns: Utah Construction Co. of San Francisco and Ogden, H. J. Kaiser & W. A. Bechtel Co. of San Francisco, MacDonald & Kahn of San Francisco, Morrison & Knudsen of Boise, Ida.; J. F. Shea of Portland, Ore., and Pacific Bridge Co. of Portland.

Headquarters of the Six Companies will be in the Phelan Building.

Under U. S. Estimate

The syndicate, recently incorporated under Delaware laws for the purpose of submitting a bid, was low with a figure of \$48,890,995, or approximately \$1,000,000 under government estimates. Only two other bids were considered, one from the Arundel Corp. of Baltimore, of \$53,893,878, and one from Woods Bros. of Lincoln, Neb., of \$58,653,107. The bids were opened Wednesday in Denver.

The \$48,890,995 figure represents the cost of construction. The government, through the Reclamation Bureau, will spend a sum approximately equal for cement and machinery, which will make the cost of the dam itself about \$108,000,000.

The cost of building a town near the site of the dam, and of building the All-America canal, will boost the total cost to \$165,000,000.

S. O. Harper, general superintendent of construction for the Reclamation Bureau, said bids for building the canal probably would not be opened until next year.

"Just Another Dam"

News that the Six Companies, Inc., had won low bid came to William H. Wattis, head of the syndicate, as he lay ill in the St. Francis Hospital.

"Well," he said, "it's just a dam. It's no different from any other dam. It hasn't got a thing that the O'Shaughnessy dam, which we built, hasn't got. There's just more of it, that's all."