

Dam Vicinity Is Becoming Highway Hub

5/2/32
Highways of merit converging at Hoover Dam are coming more and more nearly comprising a complete network of surfaced highways leading in six directions from the vicinity of the operations, and indications are constantly appearing tending to show increase of tourist traffic over these roads.

With the surfacing of the one completed surfaced highway which goes all the way to the dam site, via Las Vegas and Boulder City, complete accessibility from two directions on the Arrowhead Trail is possible on surfaced highways, with approach from the north possible on excellent highway from Reno and fair highway down the east side of the state.

And now, with surfacing of highways between Kingman and Los Angeles recently having progressed, it is possible to journey over 375 miles of paved road from Los Angeles to Kingman, thence over miles of fair roadway built by Mohave county from Kingman to the dam site in Black canyon.

Highway 66 from Kingman on eastward is being improved constantly, and, according to the Mohave County Miner, it is quite possible the whole of U. S. 66 across Arizona will be paved by fall.

Between Kingman and Los Angeles the entire highway is oil paved with the exception of a short piece of territory across Goldroad mountain. The contractors two weeks ago finished the work of seal coating the more than 20 miles between Kingman and the foot of the mountain.

And the road over Goldroad mountain is being widened for summer traffic.

On many days recently 400 to

500 cars a day have traveled highway 66 via Kingman, and according agricultural inspection station officers it is expected this figure will reach 800 to 900 soon.

Summing up the roads leading to the dam site, the trip can be made by surfaced highway from Los Angeles via Las Vegas, and by first class highway from Salt Lake and Reno via Las Vegas.

It can be reached by good road from Ely district. Entry can be made over 375 miles of good highway from Los Angeles to Kingman, thence over a fair roadway through rough, virgin country, likewise via Kingman over excellent highway from Albuquerque and Flagstaff direction on highway 66, besides the good road up from Phoenix to Kingman, thence over the Mohave county road to the canyon.

The idea of running in a road to the Colorado river from Peach Springs is now even under consideration, a party of 19 a week ago Sunday making the trip from Kingman via Peach Springs and thence to Diamond creek dam site in the bottom of the Grand Canyon just 21 miles north of Peach Springs.

Two and one-half miles of walking were necessary. The Kingman chamber of commerce is contemplating the possibility of making this scenic region accessible.

When Arizona, possibly with federal aid, puts in the completed highway to the dam site from southern Arizona, the dam site will become truly a hub for tourist traffic, being then connected with two major east-west highways, two highway leading north and at least one first class highway leading toward Mexico.

Thus tourists will be able to enter the dam vicinity from any direction with ease and convenience, and go out any other direction, a great variety of route selection being possible. Thus is one of the most inaccessible regions in the nation becoming one of the most accessible and most used.