

100 Mile Lake

11/15/32

A HUGE inland lake with five hundred fifty miles of shore line, with dozens of launches and excursion boats moving upon its bosom. Desert resorts on a rocky lake shore. Artificial greenery and natural verdure developing around the fringe of the big lake to be created in the canyon of the Colorado behind Hoover Dam.

That is the vision of men who are close to the Hoover dam project. It is more now than a dream. It is a coming actuality. For nearly a year actual work toward building the great barrier has been under way. And by 1938, all going as efficiently as it has for the first year, the dam should be completed.

Water will then commence accumulating back of the dam, the flow below the dam being capable of regulation to suit the needs of the people below. For years the water will continue to accumulate, slowly during the summer months, rapidly during the spring floods.

The total capacity of the reservoir will be around thirty and one half millions of acre feet, an acre-foot being the amount of water required to cover one acre one foot deep.

The technicians of the bureau of reclamation compute that the water in this reservoir would be enough to cover the entire State of Connecticut ten feet deep.

This great inland lake will be in three principal segments, the principal one being in the bed of the Colorado herself. It is 115 Canyon dam site to Bridge canyon, the limit of the backwater. An arm of the lake will extend to the north up the Virgin valley for a distance of thirty-five miles.

THE AREA of the reservoir will be 145,000 acres, or 227 square miles, as compared to the 193 square miles of Lake Tahoe in northern Nevada and California. The width varies from several hundreds of feet in the canyons to about eight miles maximum.

Though the scenic aspect of this great lake is only incidental, so far as the dam project is concerned, a great factor in the upbuilding of the inland area of the Southwest as a scenic district.

Aside from the novelty of a lake of this magnitude caused by the greatest dam of all time, there

is the fact that lands hitherto inaccessible and unexplored will be opened by travel on this lake.

VENTURESOME boatmen who have journeyed 80 or 90 miles, as far as they could go, upstream from the dam site, have found curious Indian mounds, sacramental pits and other signs of a long-gone civilization, and it is expected many more will be found when travel is opened by the lake into

this fascinating, rough wild country.

It is possible a national park will be created embodying this lake.

The elevation at high water line will be 1,229 feet above sea level, all lands below elevation 1,240 to be purchased by the government or retained for reservation purposes.

Of the water to be stored, 9,500,000 acre-feet will be utilized for flood regulation; 5,000,000 to 8,000,000 acre-feet silt pocket; 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 acre-feet active or regulation storage.

It is estimated 80,000 to 250,000 acre-feet of silt will be deposited annually behind the dam, in the entire reservation.

The total silt deposit will not exceed 3,000,000 acre-feet at the end of fifty years.