

EDITORIAL

5/4/32 "WE WANT SCHOOL"

Comes the voice of Boulder children:

"We want school."

Uncoached, their writings unedited by adults, members of the staff of the "Boulder Pebbles," Boulder City school paper, today sound out in clarion tones the demand for a school—for a ninth grade in Boulder City next year.

While parents on Uncle Sam's Hoover dam reservation are building a dam to protect homes of the Imperial valley, these workers' homes must go to the expense of paying tuition or stage fare in order that their children might not miss an entire year of schooling.

Governmental machinery often moves slowly. In this instance governmental machinery in Washington has not moved too well, as a politixing congress votes a measly \$70,000 or so for construction and one year's operation of a school for this city of 5,000 souls.

Some of the federal government's men will have to wave a magic wand somewhere and produce more capital, or some of Boulder's children may go schoolless for another year. Efforts are being made in this direction. Parents and children are anxiously awaiting results.

Even with bids under consideration for construction of a school, and for small supplementary buildings, the entire matter is yet "up in the air" and it appears doubtful that there will be facilities for any above the eighth grade.

"We eighth graders want to know whether or not we will have to quit school after we graduate into the ninth grade within the next few weeks."

The voice of the children make in effect, this demand.

Congress, the Bureau of Reclamation and the children's fathers are building a great engineering project. But will they do it at the expense of that far greater project, the up-building of future men and women?

The schooling of several hundreds of red-blooded young Americans, who do not want their futures jeopardized by the fact that their fathers helped build Hoover dam, is not matter of secondary consideration. It is a matter of human engineering that in some respects transcends the widely publicized mechanical engineering of dam construction itself.

The voice of the children asks that our government agencies shall not fail them. The answer is that our government agencies must not—will not fail the children of the builders of Hoover Dam.