

# Whence Boulder City

By ELTON GARRETT

Boulder City is destined to live.

What better time to pause and sum up Boulder City's past and future than on her first anniversary?

That first year has been remarkable in the extreme. What of the next four or five? And what of the period beyond that? No one can tell.

Nothing, however, is to prevent conjecture as to her future. Time alone will tell how many of the various possibilities for the community will materialize. Yet it is interesting, especially to Boulder City residents, to weigh their future in terms of Boulder City's future prospects.

Boulder City is destined to live and thrive for a five year period, for the national congress has decreed Hoover dam shall be built. And that means payroll for that period, and payroll after all is the bedrock foundation for a town.

After completion of the dam, 125 to 150 men will be employed to care for dam, power plant and lake. This assures a population of more than half a thousand, according to opinion based upon reliable facts. Men employed on transportation, railroad, boats and other phases of the commercial network of the vicinity, counting also their families, will comprise another 200, for there will be a considerable tourist traffic as a constant source of activity and revenue.

To serve this community of 800, another 120 men for other enterprises will be added. They, with their families, will bring the total in all probability up to around 1,500.

With no electro-chemical or other industries whatever, there should remain a town of one to two thousand population after the dam is finished.

But add to that assured population the possible growth on account of industries which cheap power probably will draw to the vicinity, add to that the population that will be brought if a great United States veterans' hospital should be established in Boulder, and it becomes clear that, indefinite as they may seem, Boulder's City's possibilities are nonetheless potent and worth while.

Boulder City is not in any sense a boom town—should not and will not be a boom town. The government officials in charge are guarding against over-crowding and booming.

Boulder City, however, will make a strong bid for the attention of the world and for her tourist travel.

The city of Niagara Falls, New York, is full of shops where novelties are sold, and there is much of catering to tourists. The great Niagara Falls built the town.

Hoover dam should draw more tourist travel than Niagara in the future.

Cheap power from turbines at Niagara Falls has built up population centers in that vicinity.

Hoover dam will be capable of producing twice as much cheap electric power as Niagara, enough to pay for the dam itself in 50 years. What will this power do in transformation of the desert town into its potential community of chemical and non-metallic minerals industries? Only time will tell.

When tourists learn that Boulder City is completely prepared to give hotel and other necessary service, the traffic will increase greatly, and Boulder City will profit accordingly.

Meantime, while hotel projects are being planned, analysis shows a surprising completeness of the comforts of a modern community, considering the bare one-year's existence of the town.

Boulder is built along sound lines and on plans carefully drawn up. The foundation has been well laid during this initial year. The city's destiny will depend largely upon the aims and the unity of her executives and her citizens.

By pleasing those who come here to see, Boulder City can build for herself anationwide reputation, bringing a constant stream of traffic to her doorstep, and placing herself in a unique and lasting position of security among the tourist meccas of the nation.