

BOULDER CITY IN THE LAP OF POLITICS

Boulder City, child of a congressional act, sits in the lap of national politics.

Political battles raged for years before the Hoover Dam project and this desert wonder city were made possible. Political jockeying has been in progress at the seat of the national government during the past few months—jockeying the outcome of which is largely to determine Boulder City's immediate future.

True, Hoover dam must be built in order to protect great valleys from acute danger of being wiped out of existence by a wild and dangerous river. That, in fact, is the fundamental reason for the construction of the dam.

And yet Hoover dam has been and will continue to be a political football at times unless this need for protection from flood be kept before the minds of the American people and their representatives in Washington.

The writer sat recently in a theatre and saw a newsreel picture Yuma, downstream from the damsite, by men working day and night of a desperate battle that was staged but a short while ago near with huge gas shovels and trains running along levees to keep the broad expanse of flooding Colorado from breaking loose and running down into a nearby valley, possibly permanently submerging it with its homes and farms.

That picture should be seen by every congressman and by every man and woman who plans to run for congress during the next four years.

There are midwestern and eastern solons who place political considerations, false economy and sectional differences above the consideration that this piece of protective construction must be rushed to earliest completion.

Fortunately the Hoover Dam project, however, has won out, or is in process of winning out, in this political melee at a time when party politics seethes throughout the nation. And fortunately sufficient funds are being lined up to keep the work going top speed.

There is little doubt now but that future congresses will keep the project moving. And yet there is no overlooking the fact that the project (and Boulder City) sit squarely in the lap of the nation's politics, and that therefore project executives, sympathizers and workers must keep themselves actively interested in those national politics.

Now that \$23,000,000 appears to be in the offing for use in the Hoover Dam project, what effects, if any, would a change of national administration next year on the Hoover Dam job, the question might be propounded: now have upon Bureau of Reclamation policy, upon this project—upon Boulder City? It's an interesting question to contemplate.