

## WATER ARRIVES NONE TOO SOON

### Anacortes Gets First Drink From Skagit When Supply Is Almost Depleted

The 250 horsepower inductive motor in the pump house at Avon began forcing water through the huge main to Anacortes late Friday afternoon at the rate of 2,400 gallons per minute. It has been running ever since except for an hour Monday, when the screen chambers were cleaned out for final inspection.

Two hours later the city of Anacortes, it is claimed, would have been without water, as the supply at Whistle Lake was exhausted. The auxiliary pump, now located at the Lake Campbell pumping station, will be moved to Avon as soon as a sufficient supply of water is in reserve at the reservoir in Anacortes to make certain that the city will not be without water in case of any unexpected mishap to the new system.

The city has accepted the water from the river, but has not accepted the new pipe line as yet or made final settlement with the contractors.

The water is being treated with chlorine gas as it comes through the intake pipe into the pump, after going through the sand filter. In Anacortes it is variously treated to insure as nearly 100 per cent water as is possible to obtain.

Lester Thomas, son-in-law of A. W. Forbes of Avon, has received the position as operator at the Avon plant. Mr. Thomas resides at Avon, and has been on the job since construction was first started.

The new water system, which is said will cost the city of Anacortes around \$700,000, was put in by Puget Sound Machinery Depot of Seattle as general contractor. Pacific Bridge of Portland had the sub-contract for constructing the pump house, screen chambers and intake pier, and for laying of the mains underneath Swinomish Slough. Nepage McKinney of Seattle laid the other pipe, A. A. Day of Seattle installed the machinery in the pump house, and L. A. Farmer of Anacortes built the reservoir.