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MAYOR OF SEATTLE MAKES FIRST VISIT TO SKAGIT PROJECT

TO INSPECT WORK UNDERWAY IN UPPER VALLEY—SAW MILL IN OPERATION AND RAILROAD PROGRESSING

Mayor Hugh M. Caldwell of Seattle passed through here Thursday on his way to the upper Skagit Valley for his first visit to the site of the city of Seattle's hydro-electric power plant on the upper river. The mayor expected to spend at least four days in inspecting the work. He was accompanied by A.H. Dimock, city engineer; C.F. Uhden, special engineer in charge of the project, and J.D. Ross, superintendent of the Seattle light department.

The inspection trip will include not only the work already done on the initial development at Gorge Creek, for which an appropriation of \$5,500,000 has been made by the Seattle City council, but also the proposed development at Ruby Creek, said by engineers to be the key to the entire project, if the water power resources of the upper Skagit are to be utilized to the limit of their possibilities. A survey of the Ruby Creek section is soon to be made to determine the feasibility of the proposed construction and its probable cost. Estimates on tentative plans give the approximate cost of the completed project as \$55,000,000.

The saw mill at Gorge Creek has been fully installed and is now in operation, cutting lumber for camp buildings and for the forms to be used in the concrete work when actual construction on the dam is started. The work of building the railroad from Rockport to Gorge Creek is going ahead rapidly, and all

indications are that it will easily be completed before the end of the year. Grading camps have been established at a number of points along the route, and reports are to the effect that all the camps are making rapid headway.