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POWER OFFICIALS CONFIRM NEWS THAT DAM WILL BE BUILT

PRESIDENT OF THE POWER COMPANY SAYS THAT PLANT WILL BE IN OPERATION BEFORE THE CLOSE OF 1925

The news that work is to start at once on the construction of the huge power project on the Baker River by the Puget Sound Power & Light Co., a subsidiary of the Stone-Webster Corporation, was confirmed last week by A. W. Leonard, president of the Puget Sound Company. The Seattle Times of last Sunday carried a long article in regard to the proposed dam, giving many interesting details regarding its construction, and in the course of the article Pres. Leonard is quoted as follows: "We are pleased to announce the beginning of construction on this important unit of power development. We expect to be developing 30,000 horsepower of electrical energy at the Baker river plant by the end of next year, and will install an additional turbine to bring the full capacity up to 48,000 horsepower."

There are about 25 men here now under the charge of Engineer T.H. Campbell, who are surveying the lands connected with the dam site, mapping the ground and securing the other data needed in preparing the maps and specifications for the dam. These men are making their headquarters in this city, and have established offices in L.E. Wolfe's real estate office for the present. Yesterday Pres. Leonard and a party of officials and engineers from the Seattle office of the power company visited the city and spent the day in getting over the ground and checking the work already done by the crew here.

The Puget Sound Power & Light company operates a large number of power plants in the western part of this state, and the Baker river power plant will be the second in point of capacity, being exceeded only by the White river plant, which is now producing 61,662 horsepower. However, the power company also has in contemplation a second dam on the Baker River, to be located at Sulphur canyon, on the upper river, and when this is constructed; it will develop nearly as much power as the main dam here. The company is now serving about 260 cities and towns from the Canadian border into northern Oregon and extending across the Cascades into the Wenatchee valley.

The big dam will be located below the Superior railroad bridge across the Baker and as it will be 225 feet high, it will put the railroad out of commission. The cement company is planning to erect an aerial tram, similar to the one formerly used by the old Washington company, to transport the rock from the quarry to the plant, and it is estimated that this will cost about \$100,000. The Puget Sound Sawmills & Shingle Company will also have to find a new outlet for its logs, and it is rumored that this company is planning a new railroad down the Jackman creek valley to connect with the Great Northern at Van Horn.

It is planned to make the new power plant here one of the most modern and

efficient in the world. The impounding dam will be 225 feet high and 325 feet long and will be located about 500 feet below the bridge. About 75,000 barrels of cement will be required for its construction.