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POURING OF CEMENT FOR BIG POWER DAM STARTS TOMORROW

EVERYTHING IS NOW READY TO START ACTUAL BUILDING-WORK WILL BE CONTINUED THROUGH THE WINTER

The Stone & Webster Company has now completed all its preliminary preparations for building the huge power dam in the Baker River canyon, and according to present plans the first cement for the foundations of the dam will be poured tomorrow. The excavating of the site to bed rock has been completed and the first forms are now being set in place. The massive bunkers for the storage of sand and gravel have been built and are already partially filled for the first run, and the battery of huge cement mixers have been set up and are ready for operation, and chutes have been placed from the mixers to the dam site to carry the concrete from the mixers to the dam. The mixers have a capacity of more than 3,000 cubic yards of concrete a day, and it is planned to operate them to as near full capacity as possible.

The work of building the dam will be continued steadily through the winter, the work to be rushed as rapidly as weather conditions and the stage of water in the river will permit. It is hoped that there will be a month or more now before the river will again reach a flood stage, and by that time it is planned to have the dam built to a point where a flood in the river will not delay operations to any considerable extent.

The people in charge of the construction of the dam here have made a remarkable showing during the past summer. The enormous amount of work that has been

done preparatory to actual building operations cannot be comprehended without a visit to the vicinity of the dam, and even then a person who was not acquainted with the scene of operations before the work was started will be unable to realize the amount of detail required. The building of the camp, railroads, bunkers and excavating for the dam and power house has required work that could easily take more than a year to accomplish, and it has been completed in less than six months.

The progress of the work up to the present time indicates that the dam and plant will be completed and in operation by the time first fixed by the company, November 1, 1925, and if this is done it will likely set a record that will stand for some years to come. The work being done here is more extensive than the construction of the Seattle project on the upper Skagit, and that plant has been under construction for a number of years and, as now completed, will not have the capacity of the plant being built here.