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WATER WILL BE TURNED INTO DIABLO POWER DAM SATURDAY

The huge power dam being built by the city of Seattle in Diablo canyon, above Newhalem, is now practically completed and the waters of the Skagit will be turned into the dam next Saturday. This week the diversion tunnel is being sealed and the two spillways located about forty feet above the bed of the river will also be sealed. When the water reaches the first gate, or spillway, to remain in the permanent structure, it will have a depth of over 160 feet and will form a lake six miles long and twice as large as Lake Union in Seattle. With the present flow of water, it will require ten days or more to fill the big dam.

The contractors have completed all work on the dam proper and are now putting the finishing touches on the completed project. Later in the month the dam will be turned over to the city of Seattle by the contractors. Winston Brothers, in an impressive ceremony held at the dam, and it is reported that Mayor Edwards will accept the structure on behalf of the city. Excursions will be run to Newhalem for his ceremony, and it is expected that there will be a large attendance from Seattle and from Skagit valley communities.

The new power dam is one of the highest in the world, towering 389 feet above the bed of the river. It ranges in thickness from 140 feet at the base to twelve feet at the top and is built of reinforced concrete from the base on bedrock to the railing at the top. Superior Portland cement was used in the construction of the dam, and a number of local people have been employed on the project from the time it was started three years ago to

its completion. With completion of this dam, Seattle has one of the largest power projects in the west, and the plant will be further enlarged in the near future through the erection of a huge storage dam on Ruby creek, a few miles further up the Skagit. It is expected that work will start on the Ruby creek project within the next year.