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STEEL SPAN NOW OUT OVER RIVER

The Dalles bridge starting edging its way from the south side of the Skagit River last week as steel began to form under the skilled hands of the Arthur Fralich Co. crew. Steel is now in place from the south end of the bridge to the south pier and a section has been completed from the pier north across the water. Girders and framework are in place, also much of the deck structure. Riveting has started behind the erection crew.

The two large barges arrived on the Dalles site Monday after a hectic 10-day trip up the Skagit. Low water caused lots of trouble and delayed the trip almost a week. On the barge is a large crane with a 130-foot boom which will be used to handle the steel that will be used out over the river.

The barge should be in operation by the end of the week. The center span material will be loaded on one barge from the north approach, after which the steel crew can start work from this side of the river. As all steel has to be handled from the north approach no work can be done there until all steel for the south half of the bridge has been sent across by high line or loaded on the barge.

Although slightly behind schedule because of the delay in arrival of the barge, work will go speedily from now on.

Road construction crews are also making good use of the fine weather on the south side highway.