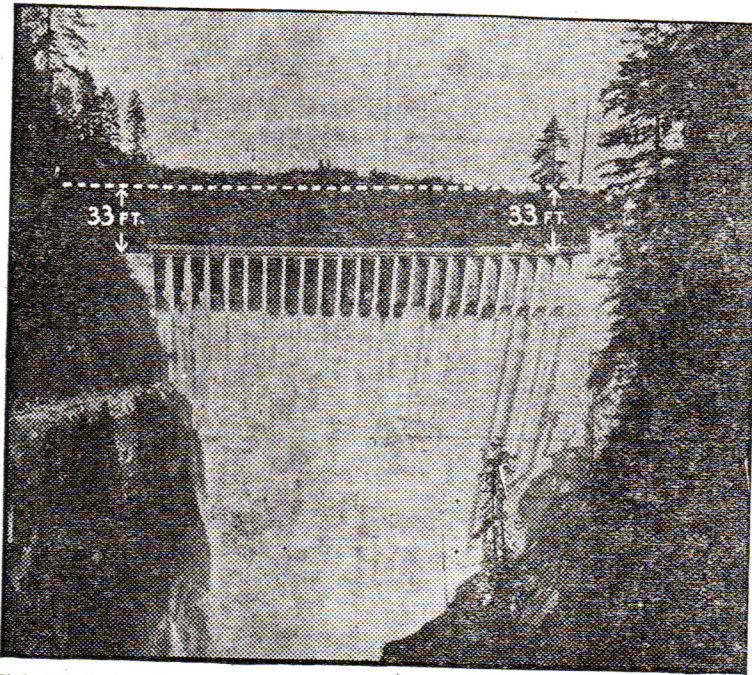


THE COURIER-TIMES

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Height of Big Baker River Dam to Be Increased 33 Ft.



With 33 feet added to the height of the Baker River Dam at Concrete for the Puget Sound Power & Light Company the great structure will be 293 feet high, practically doubling the water storage capacity.

The Puget Sound Power & Light Company is expending \$200,000, according to announcement just made by President A. W. Leonard, to practically double the water storage capacity behind the great Baker River concrete dam at Concrete in Skagit county. This makes it possible also to increase the generating capacity of the new Baker River hydro-electric plant from its present figure of 40,000 horsepower, to 50,000 or more.

This enlargement of capacity is being accomplished by increasing the height of the Baker River dam by 33 feet from its present 260 ft. to a total of 293 feet, making it one of the highest concrete structures of the kind in the world.

Water storage in Shannon Lake, created by the building of the Baker River Dam two years ago, is now 10,000 acre-feet, but will be increased to 130,000 acre-feet by the heightening of the dam. This means, in technical terminology, that 13,000,000 kilowatt hours of new storage will be available for conversion into electric current, greatly needed not only for the growing needs of the company's operations, but especially valuable during the low-water season in the later summer and early fall.

The fish rack on the south side of Baker River, elevating the famous Baker Lake sockeye salmon up to their spawning ground, is also being extended to conform to the new height of the dam at a cost of \$15,000, and is being otherwise improved to add to its efficiency. Not before has the lifting of salmon to such a height been attempted, and the success of the plan has attracted attention literally all over the world.

The Baker River sockeye salmon have a reputation far and wide as among the most toothsome of the salmon tribe. But for the construction of this salmon ladder and railway for the salmon they could not have survived the installation of this mighty dam.

A force of some 200 men is at work on these improvements at Baker river.